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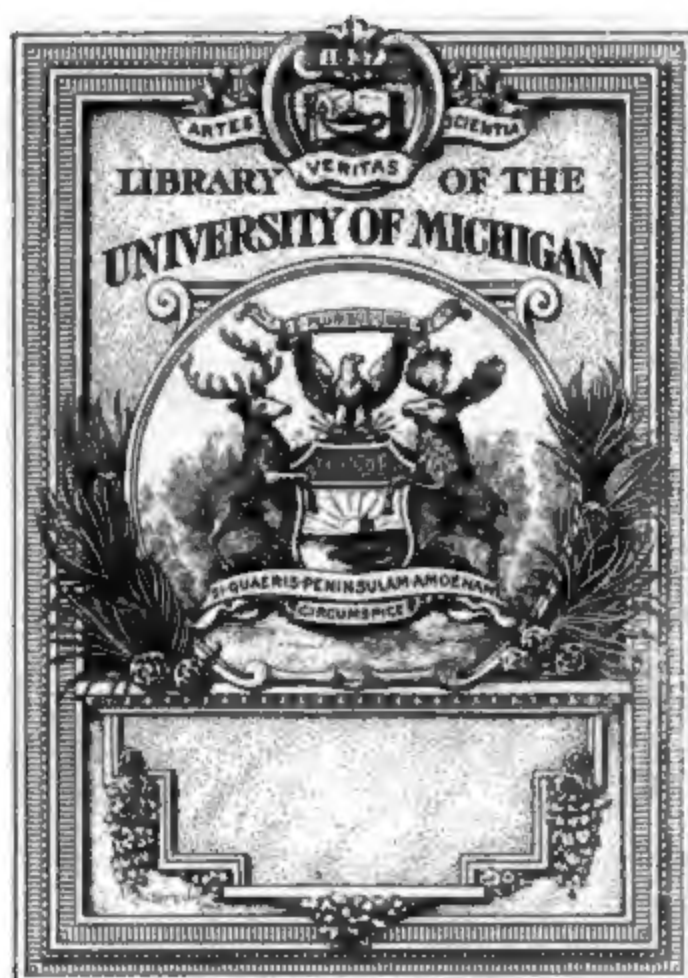
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THE CORRESPONDENCE OF THE  
COLONIAL GOVERNORS OF  
RHODE ISLAND  
1723-1775









THE STEPHEN HOPKINS HOUSE, PROVIDENCE

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**THE CORRESPONDENCE  
OF  
THE COLONIAL GOVERNORS  
OF RHODE ISLAND  
1723-1775**

Published by the National Society of the  
Colonial Dames of America in the State of  
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**GERTRUDE SELWYN KIMBALL**

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## CORRESPONDENCE OF THE COLONIAL GOVERNORS OF RHODE ISLAND

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GOVERNOR GREENE TO RICHARD PARTRIDGE.

NEWPORT ON RHODE ISLAND August 1<sup>st</sup> 1746

*Friend Partridge*

the Duplicate of Your Letter Dated April 22<sup>d</sup> 1746 per Cap<sup>t</sup> Shores; Came to hand the 15<sup>th</sup> of July Last; by which we are Informed that the affare of the boundary Line betwixt this Colony and the province of the Massachusetts Bay (which has been so Long Disputed; is at Last Determined in our Favour; which is not only well pleasing to me but as well to the People in Gen<sup>l</sup> in this Colony; and also to a great part of the people (as I am Informed) that will be Taken into this Colony by said Line now in Behalf of this Colony; and in Perticular that part which will be Included therein by the Settlement of Said Line. I earnestly Request that you use your utmost Indeavours to git his Majesties Royal order out under the privy seal, with all Expedition possible and Send it to this Colony; that those people who are now Dayly Suffering under the Extraordinary Proceedings of the province of the Massachusetts; may be more at peace for they are almost Daly Impresing more or less of them as I am Informed; and

Many Such as they Cant Reasonably expect will bare arms for Conciance Sake; by which Means they Draw Great Sums of Money from Many; otherwise they will not Release them;

I have persuant to Your Request of the 6<sup>th</sup> of Feb<sup>r</sup> 1744<sup>1</sup> Sent you a plan of our fourt and harbour; as it now is; and also a plan as the fort is proposed to be built with several Batteries as you will See by one of Said plans; I hope You will Do all in Your power to procure the Cannon and other Stores for this Colony; according to their Request some time past (that is as a present from his majesty)

I Rec<sup>d</sup> his Majesties Instructions from his Grace the Duke of New Castle Relating the Expedition against Canada the 28<sup>th</sup> of May Last and emediately Called the General assembly; who unanimously Concluded to Raise three Hundred Souldiers as Land fources; and to Send our Gard Sloop with one Hundred Seamen; and ordered a bounty of fifty pounds to each Souldier that should enlist into his Majesties Service for their Incoragement; besides Cloathing beding Tents &c<sup>a</sup> by which Means we soon have the Most part of that Number enlisted and they are Now Ready to Imbark as soon as his Majesties fources arrives, our Small Government have got their Men Ready Much Sooner than the Massachusets and a Greator proportion notwithstanding they so often Complain of us.

I am Your Sincere friend

W<sup>M</sup> GREENE

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<sup>1</sup> February 6, 1744.

ADMIRAL WARREN TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

BOSTON August 19<sup>th</sup> 1746

*Sir*

Admiral Townsend having desired me to give notice to the Trade of the Colonys, that a Convoy will sail from Louisbourg for England about the latter end of September, who will take any Ships under their care that chuse to joyn the said Convoy at Louisbourg. I take this method to desire you will be pleas'd to notify this to the Trade of your Colony, as I do not think it adviseable to advertize it in the Publick Prints.

I am Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> Most Obedient humble Servant

P WARREN

To The Hon<sup>ble</sup> BENJAMIN<sup>1</sup> GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Governour of Road Island



GOVERNOR SHIRLEY AND ADMIRAL WARREN TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

BOSTON August 25<sup>th</sup> 1746

*Sir,*

His Grace the Duke of New Castle having by his Majesty's Command in his Letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> of last April<sup>2</sup> signified to M<sup>r</sup> Shirley, *that if L<sup>t</sup> General S<sup>r</sup> Clair<sup>3</sup> and we should think that any other Scheme,*

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<sup>1</sup> This is a mistake. William Greene was governor of Rhode Island in 1746.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 162.

<sup>3</sup> Commander of the expected reinforcements from England.

than that which is contained in his Grace's said Letter *for the Reduction of Canada may be more practicable and adviseable, It will certainly be left to us three to do as we shall think proper*; We have accordingly in the Absence of Lieu<sup>t</sup> General S<sup>t</sup> Clair (and as the major part of those in whom his Majesty reposes this Trust) from Time to Time, as we have judged it necessary for promoting his Majesty's Service, concerted Measures for the better conducting of the Preparations for this important Enterprize.

And whereas it appears to us from the Accounts we have received of the Levies raised within his Majesty's several Governments engaged in this Expedition, that those raised within the four Colonies of New England do not exceed 5000, at the most, nor those within the five Southern Colonies 2100, which Troops together with the Six Regiments expected from England, and the two lately arrived at Louisburg from Gibraltar will not as we conceive be a sufficient Land Force for the Reduction of the whole Country of Canada, tho' the Squadron of his Majesty's Ships and Transports appointed for the Service of the Expedition should arrive at Louisburg in Time for proceeding this Year up the River of S<sup>t</sup> Lawrence and carrying on afterwards the necessary Operations against Quebec, which from the advanced Season of the Year and our not having yet received Advice of their being on their Passage, we are very apprehensive they most probably will not; And whereas we are of Opinion that the before mentioned American Troops, together with the Indians of the Six Nations, which it is hop'd will join with his Ma-

jesty's Troops in this Expedition, may, if they should Act in Conjunction against the French Fort at Crown Point,<sup>1</sup> be a sufficient Force for the Reduction of it even tho no Diversion should be made at Quebec to favour this Enterprize by a Land Armament, provided it is attempted without Delay.

And it appears to us that this Fort being the Key of Canada on the Land Side, and the Place of Rendezvous, from whence the Enemy not only may make Incursions upon most of his Majesty's Colonies, and have begun already to commit great Devestations, but may very much annoy that part of his Majesty's Land Forces which according to the Plan of Operations for this Expedition, transmitted to M<sup>r</sup> Shirley in the Duke of New Castle's Letter, is design'd to penetrate into Canada from Albany by Land (if it should be left on their backs in the Possession of the Enemy) the Reduction and Garrisoning of it by his Majesty's Forces would not only be a Protection to the English Settlements on the Frontiers during the Expedition, but open a more safe Passage into the Enemy's Country for his Majesty's Forces, be a commodious Magazine to 'em for Stores and Provisions, and by making us Masters of the Lake Champlain with the Passes, Defiles, and carrying Places as far as the Fort at Chamblee,<sup>2</sup> within Sixteen Miles of Montreal, afford an easy transportation of Provisions

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<sup>1</sup> The English name for the point on the western shore of the southern end of Lake Champlain, where the lake suddenly narrows so that a few cannon would stop the passage. The French intrenched themselves there in 1731, and named the place Fort Frédéric. It was a halfway station between Albany and Montreal, and the basis of forays against the settlers of New York, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire.

<sup>2</sup> Fort Chambly, a French outpost.

and Succours for the Support of the Expedition, prevent the Enemy from discovering our Motions on that Side and put it into Our Power to make sudden Descents on them. all which would be the most effectual Means of confirming the Indians of the Six Nations most strongly in his Majesty's Interest, and very probably draw over to it some of the Tribes now in the French Interest, or at least bring them into a State of Neutrality between his Majesty's Subjects and the French, and would thro' the Blessing of Divine Providence on his Majesty's Arms very much facilitate the Conquest of the whole Country of Canada the next Year, if his Majesty should then be graciously pleased to send early in the Spring such a Naval and Land Force to proceed up the River S<sup>t</sup> Lawrence as he shall judge sufficient with the Assistance of the Troops raised in America for the Reduction of Quebec and Montreal (as we have the strongest Reason to hope he will) and in the mean Time Succours are prevented from being introduc'd by Sea into Quebec: And whereas we are persuaded that on the other Hand an unsuccessful Attempt both by Sea and Land this Year for the Reduction of the whole Country (which we apprehend from the lateness of the Season, and the Weakness of the Forces rais'd in the five Southern Colonies, that must in such Case march from Albany in the Enemy's Country by themselves, there is reason to fear might be the Case, especially if the Fort at Crown Point is not first reduced) would be attended with the immediate Loss of the Six Nations to his Majesty's Service, and unite all the Indians

most firmly in the French Interest, prove fatal to the Expedition, and afterwards produce very bad Consequences to all his Majesty's Northern Colonies

We therefore conceiving it our indispensable Duty in the Absence of Lieu<sup>t</sup> General S<sup>t</sup> Clair to execute the Trust reposed in him and Us by his Majesty, in such Manner as we two shall judge to be most for his Majesty's Service and the Interest of the Northern Colonies upon this Occasion, and apprehending that the joining of all the American Forces now raised in the Reduction of Crown Point, in Case we don't very suddenly hear of the Arrival of the Fleet and British Troops at Louisburg, nor receive other Instructions from his Majesty, will not only facilitate the Conquest of the whole Country of Canada the next Year, but is conformable to the Scheme of the Intended Expedition as the same has been communicated in the Duke of New Castle's Letter, and is indeed the only part of it that is likely to be practicable this Year, have communicated our Sentiments to your Honour, and doubt not of your Concurrence with us in this Case for his Majesty's Service and the General Interest of the Colonies, and desire that your Troops may receive Orders from you to hold themselves in readiness, to proceed upon the first Notice to Albany, where we shall recommend it also to the Governments of New Hampshire and Connecticut to send their Troops upon the same Service, in Case we shall not very suddenly receive Instructions from his Majesty which may interfere with this Design



We have Signified this Our Opinion to Governour Clinton by an Express sent to Albany and desired him to get a proper Train of Artillery transported to the nearest Place of Rendezvous, from Crown Point without Delay, to be ready for the Execution of this Scheme and to acquaint the Officers of the Forces of the other Southern Governments with what we propose.

Mr Shirley will order what Ordnance Stores he can from this Province which are not to be procured in the other Governments, and We desire that your Honour will provide your Proportion of Powder upon this Occasion

We are with Regard Sir

Your Honour's most Obedient humble Servants

W SHIRLEY      P WARREN

To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> GREEN



DEPUTY-GOVERNOR WHIPPLE TO GOVERNOR SHIRLEY

*Gent<sup>n</sup>*

Your Letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> instant<sup>1</sup> came to Me in the Absence of Governour Green, and in Answer to which I am to inform You, That our Forces embarked the last Week, and will be ready to join the Forces of the Neighbouring Governments If They undertake the Reduction of Crown Point.

I should be glad to be inform'd Whether You carry all or what Part of the Provisions to Albany

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<sup>1</sup> See above, p. 3.

which were designed for your Forces Provided They had gone up the River of S<sup>t</sup> Lawrence, and also what Quantity of Powder will be this Colony's Proportion. I am Gent<sup>n</sup>

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

J. W.

NEWPORT 29<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 1746

To his Exc<sup>y</sup> W. SHIRLEY Esq and the Hon<sup>ble</sup> P.  
WARREN Esq Boston



SECRETARY WILLARD TO DEPUTY-GOVERNOR WHIPPLE.

BOSTON Septem<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1746

*Sir*

Governour Shirley has directed me to inform your Honour that he has received your Letter to him and Admiral Warren of the 29<sup>th</sup> of August,<sup>1</sup> and that the sudden Death of His Lady Prevents his answering you at present, only he bids me to acquaint you that He judges that no less than four Hundred Barrels of Powder will be necessary for the great Artillery which will consist of Six or eight Cannon of eighteen Pound Shot with two Mortars, besides what you will want for your small Arms: And further I am to inform you that it is concluded by the Governour of New York and Our Commissioners (who are now arrived from Albany) that the Troops should pass by Albany, and rendezvous at Saratogo and the Villages near it where is an English Fort garrisoned

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<sup>1</sup> See the preceding letter.

with Ninety men, and the Place is quite clear of Infection

I am Your Honour's most Obedient humble Servant

JOSIAH WILLARD

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> JOSEPH WHIPPLE Esq<sup>r</sup>



ADMIRAL TOWNSEND<sup>1</sup> AND GOVERNOR KNOWLES<sup>2</sup> TO  
GOVERNOR SHIRLEY AND ADMIRAL WARREN.<sup>3</sup>

PEMBROKE IN LOUISBOURG HARBOUR  
the 11<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1746

*Gentlemen,*

By a Prize brought in here by his Majesty's Ship Kainsale the 6<sup>th</sup> Instant, we have receiv'd the following Intelligence.

Antony Rodinguez Master of the La Judith from Rochell, bound to Quebec, says, that on the 22<sup>d</sup> June N. S. he saild from Rochell in Company with 70 Sail of Ships,<sup>4</sup> Men of War and Transports, under the Command of the Duke D'Anville, with 8000 Troops on board, 14 Ships were of the Line, from 50 to 74 Guns; that he left them on the 15<sup>th</sup> July in the Latitude of 44.54, and saw them again the 23<sup>d</sup> in the Latitude of 41.22. He was taken by the Kinsale off

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<sup>1</sup> Isaac Townsend, promoted vice-admiral in 1745. In that year he was sent with a considerable squadron to the West Indies, and early in 1746 to Louisbourg, and so to England.

<sup>2</sup> Admiral Sir Charles Knowles, appointed commodore in 1743, and stationed as second in command at Jamaica and the West Indies until 1745, when he returned to England. Early in 1746 he was sent out to Louisbourg as governor, and remained there for over two years, repairing and renewing the defences of the fortress.

<sup>3</sup> This letter was enclosed in Shirley's of September 22, 1746.

<sup>4</sup> Parkman gives two estimates, of sixty-five and sixty-six sail, respectively.

of Anticosta, the 25<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> O S, since which we have receiv'd further Accounts by a Pilot of a french Ship also bound to Quebec, who sail'd in the same Fleet, and was cast away upon the Isle of Sable<sup>1</sup> the 3<sup>d</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup> O. S. and brought in here by a Marblehead fishing Boat. This Frenchman says, he parted with the above Fleet, and the Duke D'Anville in a hard Gale of Wind, but 2 days before he was cast away, about 50 or 60 Leagues from the Isle of Sable, but cannot tell whither they are design'd, but this he knows they were very sickly, and had buried a great many Men. Here is also come in this day a Vessel from Marblehead, one Steven Master, who says, that on Sunday Night last, the 7<sup>th</sup> Instant, about 10 or 11 a Clock, he fell in with 3 Sail of large Ships about 40 Leagues to the Westward of a Place call'd Jédore,<sup>2</sup> that soon after he was pass'd them he heard a Gun fired, and presently after that 3 more, which he says had the Report of very large Guns. Part of these Informations corroborating, we judged them of so much Consequence, to immediately dispatch them to you, and at the same time acquaint you, that Admiral Townsend has sent the Rye to look into all the Ports along the Coast of Accadie, and that so soon as ever

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<sup>1</sup> Off the southern point of Nova Scotia, an extremely dangerous shoal coast. D'Anville's fleet, already weakened by heavy storms and demoralized by contagious disease, suffered greatly in the gale referred to. The commander made his way to Chibucto (Halifax), only to be disappointed in his hope of meeting reinforcements from the West India fleet. On September 27 he died—probably of apoplexy. His vice-admiral and successor, D'Estournel, committed suicide, in despair of retrieving the fortunes of the fleet. The third in command, La Jonquière, attempted to make a demonstration against Annapolis in October, but again the diminished fleet suffered from storms, and in November he sailed for France. So many men perished from the pestilence that it was doubtful if enough would survive to take the remnant of the squadron across the Atlantic.

<sup>2</sup> Jeddore, on the southern coast of Nova Scotia, some forty miles east of Halifax.

she returns, you shall be sure of knowing what further Intelligence we gain.

We are doing every thing that can contribute to the strength of this Place, and shall unite heartily in it's Defence, if the Enemy bend their Course this way; Should they visit you, You may depend upon our doing every thing in our Powers also to assist you.

We are with great Regard Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient Humble Servants

J. TOWNSEND

CHA<sup>s</sup> KNOWLES

To his Exc<sup>t</sup> Gov<sup>t</sup> SHIRLEY and Admiral WARREN.

Examin'd per W SHIRLEY

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GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

BOSTON Septem<sup>r</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> 1746.

*Sir,*

This comes to inform your Honour of the great Danger this Province is in of an Invasion from the French; which you will collect from the inclosed Papers,<sup>1</sup> as well as from the Declaration M<sup>r</sup> Whipple gave me last week (to whom please to give my Thanks;) By all which you will find the great Strenth of the Enemy both by Sea and Land; And from the just Regard we trust your Governm<sup>t</sup> has to his Majestys Interests and the common Cause, We desire

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<sup>1</sup> See the following document.

and expect that you would have what Force you can spare, ready to march to our Assistance well armed and appointed upon the first Advice you may have of the Enemys Approach to us; and that your Colony Sloop might forthwith be sent to cruize on our Coast for Discovery of the Enemy and giving us Intelligence.<sup>1</sup> And this we expect not only as a Duty your Government owe to his Majesty, but also from a Principle of Self Preservation; for if this Province should fall into the Enemys Hand, the neighbouring Provinces will soon follow.

I am Sir,

Your most obedient Humble Servant

W SHIRLEY

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> W<sup>M</sup> GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>

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DEPOSITION OF RENE HET.<sup>2</sup>

NEW YORK

Rene Het of the City of New York Merch<sup>t</sup> being duly sworn upon the holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth, and saith, that in conversation with one Louis Simon, Capt<sup>n</sup> of a French prize lately taken, he had learnt that the French fleet under the Command of the Marquis de Anvile was design'd upon

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<sup>1</sup> In response to this letter, the Assembly, on September 29, ordered additional works at Fort George, on Goat Island, and voted to send the *Tartar* to meet the English fleet under Admiral Lestock. Furthermore, a draught of the new fortifications was ordered sent to Partridge, to facilitate his "best endeavours to procure the cannon" for which the colony had petitioned. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 189, 190.

<sup>2</sup> Enclosed in letter of September 22, 1746.

an expedition against Newfoundland and Cape Breton. That among that fleet were some Spanish ships, out of which all the Spaniards were sent away, and french officers and men put on board. That it consisted of Twenty six ships of war, and forty Transports, on board of which were fifteen thousand land forces, and all sorts of implements of war for a seige. That all the french prisoners sent from Cape Breton particularly Morepang were embark'd on board that fleet.

That Admiral Comflans<sup>1</sup> at Petitquavous<sup>2</sup> sometime in July, three days before the said Simon left that place, receiv'd a packet from the Court of France with directions for him (the said Comflans) as soon as he had convoy'd a fleet of Merchantmen to Cape Francois to proceed to a certain Latitude to open his further orders, and upon receipt of that packet M. Comflans took out of the Merchantmen all the Masters and Pylotes acquainted with North America, and gave others in their room, one of which was brought into New York with this prize, who conforms the same account.<sup>3</sup>

RENE HET

Sworn the 15 Sept. 1746

Before

JAMES DELANCEY<sup>4</sup>

DAN HORSMANDEN<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Conflans.

<sup>2</sup> Petit Gouave. Described in Salmon's *Gazetteer* (1762) as "Petitquaves, a port-town of Hispaniola, situated on a bay at the west end of the island."

<sup>3</sup> Conflans was sent to the French West Indies with four men-of-war shortly before the departure of D'Anville's fleet for Nova Scotia. The two squadrons were to unite off Halifax, or Chibucto. Conflans arrived there early in September, cruised about for a while, and sailed for France a few days before D'Anville appeared.

<sup>4</sup> Member of the Council of New York.

GOVERNOR SHIRLEY AND ADMIRAL WARREN TO GOVERNOR  
GREENE.<sup>1</sup>

BOSTON Sept: 29<sup>th</sup> 1746

*Sir*

As you will perceive by the inclos'd letters and intelligence which we transmit to you open,<sup>2</sup> what Steps we have taken to apprize Admiral Lestock (who with a strong fleet may be daily expected upon the Coast of Nova Scotia, or Cape Breton) of the situation and Strength of the Enemys Naval force, seen the 16<sup>th</sup> Instant off the harbour of Chebucto, near Cape Samborough. — We have dispatch'd as many Vessells as we cou'd possibly get here to meet the Admiral, with this intelligence, And are of opinion you can't do your King and Country a greater peice of service, than by dispatching your Colony Sloop without a moments loss of time to Cruize for Admiral Lestock with this intelligence, 'till the 25<sup>th</sup> of October, unless she shall sooner meet with him.<sup>3</sup> And as the English fleet will most probably make the Cape Sable Shore to the westward of the Isle of Sables, we are of opinion the inclos'd will be a proper order, and the Station mention'd therein most likely to meet the fleet, and therefore flatter ourselves you will approve of it.

We have letters from M<sup>r</sup> Mascareen Governour of Annapolis, dated the 21<sup>st</sup> Instant, by which we find the Chester and Shirley Frigate were there and that he had heard of no French Ships being in the Bay

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 191.

<sup>2</sup> See the two following documents.

<sup>3</sup> See note to letter of September 22, 1746.



of Fundy; and we hope ere this the reinforcement of Troops sent by Governour Shirley are safe there.<sup>1</sup>

We are with great regard Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> Most Obedient humble Servants

W SHIRLEY. P WARREN

P. S We esteem it of the last consequence to the Colony that Adm<sup>l</sup> Lestock should be met with at Sea as in case he should be too weak to cope with the Enemy without the Assistance of Adm<sup>l</sup> Townsend, and be surprized, and overpowered by them, The Storm of their whole force would be immediately directed towards New England, wherefore we hope we may depend absolutely upon your sending out your Colony Sloop with the inclosed Dispatches forwith

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> WILLIAM GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>

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GOVERNOR SHIRLEY AND ADMIRAL WARREN TO ADMIRAL  
LESTOCK.<sup>2</sup>

BOSTON 27<sup>th</sup> September 1746

*Sir*

The publick Prints from England giving us the pleasing hopes, that you with a strong Fleet of his Majesty's Ships and a number of Troops was to sail for these Seas about the begining of last Month from Spithead in quest of the French Fleet, of whose

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<sup>1</sup> Shirley sent three companies of militia to Annapolis.

<sup>2</sup> Enclosed in letter of September 29, 1746. Lestock was to bring St. Clair's long-expected regiments to Louisbourg. As a matter of fact, they never started. See notes to letter of May 29, 1746.

motions, and designs we send you the inclosed Depositions, and several Pylotes for the Coast of Nova Scotia, and Louisbourg, one of which places we apprehend the Enemy intend to attack, and from their Situation when last seen off the Harbour of Chebucto near Cape Samborough, it seems most likely that the Reduction of the Garrison of Annapolis is the first thing they have in View as by that means they will immediately add five or six Thousand Nova Scotians, fighting men, to any other Force they may have brought there from France, Canada, or elsewhere; This will be the most politick part they can act, in order to their retaking Louisbourg, and annoying his Maj<sup>s</sup> American Dominions in general. If they aim at Annapolis, and do not venture up the Bay of Fundy, and into the Bason, it is most probable they will land their Cannon, and Troops at Chebucto a fine Harbour, which lyes very convenient for the Inhabitants of Menis,<sup>1</sup> and those of the head of the Bay of Fundy, who will immediately joyn the Enemy upon so good a Prospect of taking our Garrison at Annapolis. Shoud your Landfall be to the Westw<sup>d</sup> of the Isle of Sables with very little loss of Time, you may see the Harbour of Chebucto, which tis thought is the Rendezvous of the Enemy's Fleet. Governour Shirley has sent out several Vessells to observe their Motions, and waits impatiently for their Return; He has made all the necessary preparations to give them a reception that wont be very agreeable to them, if they should come this Way, and has sent a Reinforcement of Troops to Annapolis.

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<sup>1</sup> Minas.

Mr Warren, previous to our knowledge of the French Fleet's being in these Seas, upon Mr Mascareen's Representation that the Inhabitants of Menis had stoppd the Communication between that place, and Annapolis, which was a sufficient Reason to him (Mr Mascareen) to apprehend some designs were forming against it, sent the Chester to give it Countenance and Protection, and we hope, as the Shirley frigate is also there, together with the Reenforcement before mentioned, they will (if the French do not venture their Ships into the Bason of Annapolis) be able to defend it against the Land Forces, 'till your Arrival may relieve them.

As Mr Warren has now no Ship to joyn you which he hopes, and expects to have orders to do he begs, if you meet this Vessell, that you may dispatch any small frigate to him for that purpose and he will, without a moments Loss of Time, wait upon you, where you shall please to direct; He has wrote to Adm<sup>l</sup> Townsend for one, whom, with Governour Knowles, we have also apprized of the Enemys being in their Neighbourhood; and by Letters from Louisbourg of the 6<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> we learn that the following Ships were then in port, and we believe are still there, to wit the Kingston Pembroke, Canterbury, Norwich, Hampshire, Dover, Hinsale, Alborough, Rye, Hind, and Hinchinbrook; The Vigilant and Torrington were gone to Newfoundland, to convoy the Trade from thence to Portugal, and England, but will not sail from thence we believe till the latter end of October

We are in very little pain about Louisbourg, the

Season being so far advanced that the Enemy cant keep the Field to beseige it regularly, nor can their Ships if superiour in force to ours there, keep the Seas much longer upon that Coast

We have recommended to M<sup>r</sup> Townsend, to send some of the small Cruizers to meet you with Pylotes, and hope this Vessell or some of the Admirals will be so fortunate, as we look upon it to be of the greatest Consequence to his Majesty's Service, that you shoud be apprized of the Enemys Situation, and have people that know the Coast, which is what induces us to give you this Trouble.

We are with great Regard Sir

Your most Obedient Humble Servants

W SHIRLEY.      P WARREN

The Comet Bomb was seen twelve days ago off the Cape Sable Shore in her way to Louisbourg from Antigua.<sup>1</sup>

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Adm<sup>l</sup> LESTOCK.

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LIST OF SHIPS.<sup>2</sup>

A List of Ships with the Duke D'Anville according to the Information of the French Prisoners

Le Northumberland	—— ———	70
Le Mars		70
Le Trydon		70
L'Ardent		70

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<sup>1</sup> One of the Leeward Islands, in the group known as the Lesser Antilles.

<sup>2</sup> Enclosed with letter of September 29, 1746.

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Le Leopard	70	
La Bone	64	
Le Mercure	64	
L'Argonaute	60	
Le Tigre	54	
Le Carebou	54	
Le Perfect	00	
Le Prince d'Orange	40	
La Giconde	40	
Le Renomé	36	
Le Bristoll	30	
Two Fire Ships	50	{ we conceive { Men is meant

Five or six other Ships of the Line from Toulon  
whose names they know not

Copy examined

W SHIRLEY



THE COUNCIL OF NEW YORK TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

COUNCIL CHAMBER: NEW YORK October the 1<sup>st</sup> 1746

S<sup>r</sup>

Upon Receiving the Account of a French Fleet  
having been Seen on the Coast of Nova Scotia, We  
immediately Caused all the Papers, in possession of  
the French prisoners in this City, to be Seized, And  
in the Pocket of one of the Prisoners were found, two  
papers, Containing a List of the Duke D'Anville's  
Fleet, A Copy whereof We now inclose : <sup>1</sup> And by His

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<sup>1</sup> These documents are not in the archives.

Journal We Conjecture, that the Vessell he belonged to, which was lately brought in here, parted from the Fleet about the 9<sup>th</sup> of July last (We Suppose their Stile) Lat. 45. 40, Long 6° 20, that being the last Time the Fleet is mentioned in the Journal.

We are Sir

Your Honor's most humble Servants

JAMES DE LANCEY

DAN : HORSMANDEN

JOS : MURRAY

JOHN MOORE

STEPHEN BAYARD

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> [WILLIAM] GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Gov<sup>r</sup> of Rhode Island

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INSTRUCTIONS TO CAPTAIN DANIEL FONES.<sup>1</sup>

*Whereas* Admiral Lestock with a Fleet of the Kings Ships, And A Number of Transports from England, are Dayly Expected upon the Coast of Nova Scotia, or Cape Breton, and as it will be of the Greatest Consequence that he Should be Apprized of the Enemies Situation of[f] Cape Sambrough, or the Harbour of Chebucto which he will probably Make, You are hereby Required, and Directed, to proceed with the packit You herewith Receive from Governour Shirley, and Adm<sup>l</sup> Warren, directed for

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 192, for letter of Greene to Shirley and Warren on the attitude of Rhode Island in this emergency.

Admiral Lestock &c<sup>a</sup>. And Cruise for him from Ten Leagues to the westward of the Isle of Sables, to, within five or Six Leagues of, Cape Sables, or Cape Negro, on the Southside of Nova Scotia, takeing Care to Give Cape Samborough a Good birth Least You Should fall in with the French fleet. Upon Seeing what You Apprehend the English Fleet, You are to Hoist Your Jack, or ensign, at Your Mast head, And the admiral if he Shall have Met with any of our Expresses will Answer by hoisting a Dutch one at his fore top Gallant Mast head, but if he has not he will probably hoist a Dutch Jack at his Main topmast head, and a Spanish one at his fore, either of which You may Trust with proper Caution; You are to Continue Cruizing on the above Station, till the 25<sup>th</sup> of october, Unless You Shall Sooner Meet the admiral, or hear of his arrival at Louisbourg, whose Directions upon Meeting him, You are to follow, otherwise after the 25<sup>th</sup> of october You are to Make the best of Your way to this port, And as Several Vessels are Dispatched upon this Service You will Know any You may Meet with by hoisting Your Ensign, or Jack at Your Mast head, which will be Answered by the Same Signal. In Case of Your being Taken by The enemy, You are to Destroy the packit, and this order, and by No Means Suffer them to fall into the enemies hands, as it would be of Very ill Consiquence, You are to show the packit and This to Any of the Captains of his Majesties Ships You may meet with, who will act upon them, as they Shall Judge best for his Majesties Service You are by all Vessells You Meet with bound to

Any part of the Contenant, to Send us what Intelligence, you shall be Able to procure During your Cruise for which this shall be Your warrant

Given Under my hand this 3<sup>d</sup> day of october A D  
1746

To Cap<sup>t</sup> DAN<sup>LL</sup> FONES

Commander of the Rhode Island Colony Sloop  
Tartar

The above written is a Copy of my Instructions,  
which I promise to follow witness my hand

DANIEL FONES



GOVERNOR GREENE TO RICHARD PARTRIDGE.

NEWPORT RHODE ISLAND octob<sup>r</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 1746.

*Mr Richard Partridge*

S<sup>r</sup>

the Danger this Government is Exposed to in time of war, from its Situation and at this Juncture in perticular, when it is highly probable that a Large French Fleet in north America has Rendered the Inhabitants of this Government Very Uneasy, at the Defenceless State of the Colony, And Since my Last to You has put them upon Raising Some additional Works to fort George (a Draught whereof is here-with Transmitted by which it will appear that if the Government was Supplied with Cannon and other warlike Stores the town of Newport which is the Barrier and Security of the other parts of the Colony



(and may prove to the Neighbouring Governments) wou<sup>d</sup> be Rendered Saif against any ordinary fource as the Government have Perfected these fortifications for the Defence of the Town of Newport, the Cheiff Town and port in the Government. it is Conceived His Majesty would Speedily upon proper Representations being Made furnish the Government with Cannon and Such other Necessaries of war as woud Make these works Usefull for the Defence of the place the Reduction whereof by the enemy woud Greatly weekeon his Majestys Plantations In north America, And be of Very bad Consiquence to the Neighbouring Colonies, at present not as much exposed, and as the Government have already Petitioned his Majesty for Cannon for this Colony for their Defence the General Assembly have Requested me to write to You And Give Directions to persue that prayer with the Utmost earnestness,<sup>1</sup> laying the present Circomstance of the Colony before his Majesty, And to Use your best Endeavour<sup>s</sup> to procure what Cannon and Stores is already Petitioned for at Least and more if to be Come at, and Send them as Soon as possable, that this Governm<sup>t</sup> May not for another Season be Exposed to the Like Danger it has the Summer past. I Doubt not of Your Care and Application in this Important point And wish and Hope for Your good Success And Am S<sup>r</sup>

Your Humble Servant

W<sup>M</sup> GREENE

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 189, 190.

RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 8<sup>th</sup> 14. 1746*Gov. Green,*

I wrote thee of 23. 6 month last about the Affairs of the Colony to which I refer, this now comes to acknowledge the rec<sup>d</sup> of thine dated 1<sup>st</sup> Aug<sup>st</sup>.<sup>1</sup> with the plan of your Fortification and Letter to the Lords Committee about it both which I yesterday carried and deliverd to the Clerk of the Council against the next Committee when I intend to pursue it in order to obtain what is desired and expect to be able hereafter to give a good acco<sup>t</sup> of it.

I hope the Royal Order for Establishing the Boundaries will get to hand long before this Letter; I having sent it Some time since per Cap<sup>t</sup> Adams via Boston and also an Authentick duplicate per Cap<sup>t</sup> Power or Cap<sup>t</sup> Hoar from Spithead and am glad our Success therein is so pleasing and acceptable to the Colony.

I writt the Substance of that part of thy Letter (relating to the raising of Forces in the Colony on the new intended Expedition) to the Clerk of the Council and also to a Gentleman of the Duke of New Castles Office (as also of another Affair) a Copy of my Letter I send thee inclosed<sup>2</sup> and have been with the said Gentleman afterwards who told me the Pardon (that is for Allcock) was making out and when I have got it shall send it over as also a Copy of it in due time

And I have also rec<sup>d</sup> thy Paper of Authority

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 1.<sup>2</sup> See the following document.

empowring me to receive the money on acco<sup>t</sup> of the Expedition against Cape Breton which I think is full and Sufficient. nothing is likely to be done towards payment till after the Parliament meets which is apointed the 18<sup>th</sup> of next month.

I am with due respects to thy self and Gentlemen of the Council,

Thy assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

TO WILLIAM GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations New Engl<sup>d</sup>

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO WILLIAM SHARPE.<sup>1</sup>

8<sup>ber</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 1746.

*Clerk of the Council*<sup>2</sup>

*Fr W<sup>m</sup> Sharp,*

I have now rec<sup>d</sup> from the Governour of Rhode Island a Plan or Pofile of their Fortification for the Lords Committee of Council in persuance of their Order of 5<sup>th</sup> feb<sup>ry</sup> 1744. there is one Plan of the Fort as it now is, and an other as thou wilt See of the Same again only with some alteration proposed, and here is also our Gov<sup>r</sup>s Letter with it to the said Lords Committee all which please to lay before them at their next Sitting.

And now I woud just take this opportunity to let

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with preceding letter.

<sup>2</sup> The letter is a copy, and this phrase is evidently inserted as an explanation of Sharpe's official position.

thee know how Loyal and ready the said Colony have been in pursuing the Orders lately sent them from the Duke of New Castle about the Expedition intended against Canada, the Gov<sup>r</sup> writes me<sup>1</sup> in the following Words viz<sup>t</sup>

“ I rec<sup>d</sup> his Majestys Instructions from his Grace  
“ the Duke of New Castle Relating [to] the Expedi-  
“ tion against Canada the 28<sup>th</sup> of May last and imme-  
“ diately Called the General Assembly who Unani-  
“ mously Concluded to raise three hundred Soldiers  
“ as Land Forces and to send our Guard Sloop with  
“ one hundred Seamen; and orderd a Bounty of  
“ fifty Pounds to each Soldier that should enlist in  
“ his Majestys Service for their Encouragement be-  
“ sides Cloathing, bedding, Tents &c<sup>a</sup> by which means  
“ wee Soon had the most part of that Number en-  
“ listed, And they are now ready to Embark as soon  
“ as his Majestys Forces arrives; our Small Govern-  
“ ment have got their Men much Sooner then the  
“ Massachusetts and a greater proportion. I am

Thy Friend

R<sup>D</sup> PARTRIDGE

to the Clerk of the Council.

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 8<sup>br</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> 1746

*Governour Green*

In mine of the 14<sup>th</sup> Inst. I acknowledged the receipt of thy Letter dat<sup>d</sup> the 1<sup>st</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup> last with the Plan

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<sup>1</sup> See letter of August 1, 1746.

of yo<sup>r</sup> Fortifica<sup>n</sup> and the Letter with it for the Lords committee,<sup>1</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> I had properly exhibited at the Council Office against their next Meeting which yet has not happened, and I shall take the further necessary Steps therein. I have also thy Writing empowering me to receive the Money on acco<sup>t</sup> of the Exped<sup>n</sup> ag<sup>t</sup> Cape Breton w<sup>ch</sup> I think is Sufficient for that purpose, but nothing is likely to be done as to paym<sup>t</sup> till the Parliam<sup>t</sup> meets w<sup>ch</sup> is appointed the 18 of next month, and even then its very probable it will be some considerable time before it be brought about, perhaps a Twelve month, tho' in the mean time I intend nothing shall be wanting on my part.

I did on the 22<sup>d</sup> Inst send the Colonys acco<sup>t</sup> to the Speaker of yo<sup>r</sup> House of Representa<sup>s</sup>, the Sum for Ball thereon being £672:2:10 Sterl in my favour, besides the Charges on the Solicita<sup>n</sup> in the Cape Breton Affair not yet bro<sup>t</sup> to acco<sup>t</sup>; and inclosed I send thee a Copy of my S<sup>d</sup> Acco<sup>t</sup>. And at the same time I drew on your Treasurer for £200: Sterl payable to Andrew Oliver Esq<sup>r</sup> and Phillips on the Colonys acco<sup>t</sup> besides the £300— Sterl w<sup>ch</sup> I drew the 23 6 month<sup>2</sup> payable to the same, both w<sup>ch</sup> Bills I doubt not will meet w<sup>th</sup> due honour for my Encouragement to transact their Affairs w<sup>th</sup> chearfulness, and for my Credit sake also, for business cannot be car<sup>d</sup> on here without proper Supplis, it being much more reasonable and convenient that a whole Body of People sho<sup>d</sup> advance Money for carrying on their Business than that the Burden shoud lay on one Man, and I intend to serve them faith-

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<sup>1</sup> See Greene's letter of that date.

<sup>2</sup> August 23.

fully to the best of my ability as I have hitherto done.<sup>1</sup>

As for publick News the Conferences abo<sup>t</sup> a Peace by the Ambassad<sup>rs</sup> at Breda likely to break up without any Effect<sup>2</sup>—the King of Sardinia together with the Austrian Forces on the side of Italy are penetrating into Provence in France which putts the French Inhab<sup>ts</sup> into great consternation there.

Admiral Lestock and Gen<sup>l</sup> S<sup>t</sup> Clear with our Fleet that were designd for Canada Expedition are returnd from the Coast of France after having made some Spoils on the Enemy on the Coast of Bretany but not answerable to what might have been expected, a pretty many of the French Men of War of the Brest Fleet destined ag<sup>st</sup> Cape Breton having Met with a violent Storm about the Isle of Sables, abundance of their Men Sickly and diverse dead are returnd home to France Two of w<sup>ch</sup> viz the Mars and the Ardent 60. or 64 Gun Ships the first taken by the Nottingham Man of War and brought into Plymouth, the other has been drove aShore by some of our Ships of War and burned on the French Coast.<sup>3</sup>

Our B B<sup>s</sup>.<sup>4</sup> and Leward Island homeward bound Fleet of about sixty Saile under Convoy of Two 50. Gun Men of War met with 3 French Men of War about 200. leag<sup>s</sup> W. of the Lands end between which there was an Engagem<sup>t</sup> whilst the Merch<sup>t</sup> Men got

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<sup>1</sup> In the October session of 1747 the governor is directed to ask for a statement of Partridge's accounts during the time he has been in the colony's service. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 226.

<sup>2</sup> In September, 1746, a congress opened at Breda, where the plenipotentiaries of the Emperor, Great Britain, France, and Holland were assembled.

<sup>3</sup> See note on p. 11.

<sup>4</sup> Bahamas.

off, and they say are mostly arrived safe at Plymouth Portsm<sup>o</sup> and other Ports.<sup>1</sup>

They now talk again of some Alterations in the Ministry, w<sup>ch</sup> time must discover but this is certain that L<sup>d</sup> Harrington one of the Secretarys of State has resigned and L<sup>d</sup> Chesterfield put in his Room.

As to the matter of the Naval Officer of your Colony, that remains as it did, the Petition w<sup>ch</sup> I had the precaution to throw in here in time as a Bar before I heard from the Colony about it against Lockmans patent for it has never yet been controverted and I beleive never will, so that Priviledge I apprehend is intirely preserved. I am with due respects

Thy assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

I send thee a pack<sup>t</sup> with prints per this Ship to be forwarded by my Fr<sup>ds</sup> Oliver and Phillips

TO WILLIAM GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>

Govern<sup>r</sup> of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

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GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO GOVERNOR GREENE.<sup>2</sup>

BOSTON Nov<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1746

*Sir*

I have now the Pleasure of informing your Honour, of the French Fleet's quitting the Coast of Nova

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<sup>1</sup> This encounter took place on December 15, 1745, off Cape Nicolas. There was much criticism of the commodore, but the verdict of a court-martial justified his course of action.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 203.

Scotia, and going off to the West Indies and the Canadeans breaking up their Camp before the Garrison at Annapolis Royal; But notwithstanding this as Service of the greatest Importance remains yet to be done in Nova Scotia viz. taking or destroying all the Enemy's Magazines of Warlike Stores and Provisions at Minas and Chicknecto,<sup>1</sup> taking all the grain in the Country (except w<sup>t</sup> is wanted by the Inhabitants for their present use), for his Majesty's Service and the same with respect to their Cattle, by w<sup>ch</sup> means all the Inhabitants and Indians might be disarm'd, and the latter together with the Canadeans (in Case they should return next Spring) be without Subsistance from the Country; driving off the Canadeans design'd to winter in Minas or Chicknecto, and distressing the Indians there, among whom a very bad sickness prevails w<sup>ch</sup> has already swept off hundreds of 'em, visiting Chebucto and seeing what Foot-steps the French have left there, calling the Malecontents, who are the most obnoxious, among the French Inhabitants, to an Acc<sup>t</sup> for their joining an open Correspondence with the Enemy, and destroying the Settlements of such of 'em as shall abscond; and perhaps recovering some of the Prize Vessells and Goods taken from the English; by all w<sup>ch</sup> means the Canadeans wou'd be discourag'd from renewing their Attempts next Spring, the Friends to

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<sup>1</sup> Chignecto, or Beaubassin, an Acadian settlement at the head of Chignecto Bay, the western of the two arms formed by the Bay of Fundy, and the narrowest point of the neck of the peninsula of Acadia, or Nova Scotia. On the disappearance of D'Anville's fleet, Ramesay, the Governor of Montreal, who had advanced to support the attack on Annapolis, fell back on Chignecto with about 1600 French and Indians, and built a fort at Baye Verte, on the opposite side of the neck.



his Majesty's Government in that Province confirm'd in their Fidelity, the Abettors of the French Interest diminish'd and deterr'd from open or even secret Acts of Hostility, and the Indians very much harass'd and disabled from giving the Enemy the usual Assistance so that if the Canadeans shou'd repeat their visit in the Spring they wou'd not be able to make any progress in the Country to the disadvantage of the Garrison: I say as all these Services, w<sup>ch</sup> have so plain a Tendency to settle the lasting Security of the Province, remain yet to be done and this fall is the only opportunity for doing it, and I am Inform'd by Persons well acquainted with the Seasons in Nova Scotia, that the winter is not yet too far advanc'd for doing this with a probable prospect of the men's returning afterwards this winter, I have determin'd to send the Reinforcement of five Companies, w<sup>ch</sup> I propos'd before my receiving the last advices, some of w<sup>ch</sup> are already sail'd, and others go to day and the rest in two days at farthest; and I hope your Honour, if your three Companies are not already sail'd, will order 'em to proceed forthwith.<sup>1</sup> If our Endeavours are attended with Success at this critical Conjunction, as I hope they will, it will be a most beneficial Service for his Majesty and the Colonies,

I am in haste the Post waiting

Your Honour's most Obed<sup>t</sup> Humble Servant.

W SHIRLEY.

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<sup>1</sup> The Rhode Island troops were ordered to Annapolis Royal, in October, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 193, and sailed immediately upon the receipt of this letter; see the following document.

DEPUTY-GOVERNOR WHIPPLE TO GOVERNOR SHIRLEY.

S<sup>r</sup>.

Your Excel<sup>cy</sup>'s Favour of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant<sup>1</sup> came Safe with the Agreeable News of the French Fleet leaving the Coast, and the Canadians raising the Siege of Annapolis, and in the Absence of Governour Greene, It falls to my Province to let Your Excel<sup>cy</sup> know That agreeable to a Representation made by You and the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Admiral Warren for our Men to be sent to Annapolis, the General Assembly immediately ordered the Same to be done, and I can now inform You That on Tuesday last our Three Companies sailed in the Three Transports under Convoy of our Colony Sloop for Annapolis with all the Able and healthy Men belonging to said Companies (being Somewhat reduced by Several that have dyed and others that are now Sick) and hope they may be Instrumental by assisting the other Forces to perform the necessary Operations for distressing the Enemy, and prevent their making any further Attempts on the aforesaid Place, and for the Preservation of Nova Scotia. Your Excel<sup>cy</sup> will always find this Government ready and willing to exert Themselves to the Utmost for his Majesty's Service and Interest. I am with due Respect

Your Excel<sup>cy</sup>'s most obedient humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

J. W

NEWPORT 6<sup>th</sup> Nov, 1746.To his Excel<sup>cy</sup> W<sup>m</sup> SHIRLEY Esq

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<sup>1</sup> See the preceding letter.

GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO GOVERNOR GREENE.<sup>1</sup>BOSTON Jan<sup>y</sup> 5. 174~~8~~.

Sir,

This will be delivered you by Lieuten<sup>t</sup> Wilkinson from whom as well as by a letter from Col Kinne-  
cutt I am sorry to learn that the Levies of your Gov-  
ernm<sup>t</sup> are at length by a Train of Cross Accidents  
and disasters prevented from going upon his Maj<sup>y</sup>'s  
service to Annapolis Royal, for w<sup>ch</sup> both your Gov-  
ernm<sup>t</sup> and the Troops have shown so ready a Dis-  
position:<sup>2</sup> I can't say but that I think after having  
been so greatly weaken'd and reduc'd by sickness,  
and deaths as I understand the three Companies are,  
that your Officers Judged right in not venturing 'em  
upon a Passage to Annapolis in so extreme, and  
Wintry a season as the present has prov'd; since in  
all probability it would have destroy'd many of the  
Soldiers, and the few, that had survived it, might  
have been rather a Burthen than of service to the  
Garrison: I heartily wish those of 'em, w<sup>ch</sup> are sail'd  
for Newport, a safe Arrival there, and that the sick  
among them, and those left at Martha's Vineyard  
may recover.

M<sup>r</sup> Wilkinson informs me that some deserters from  
your Levies are suspected to be conceal'd in this  
Governm<sup>t</sup>: If there is any possibility of getting at  
'em, I will take care they shall be secur'd for you,

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 206.

<sup>2</sup> Some of the Rhode Island transports were cast away off Mt. Desert, and more than one half the men lost by drowning and exposure. Many of the remainder were useless through sickness. Some were left at Martha's Vineyard, others went to Boston and were sent home by Shirley. Arnold, *History of Rhode Island*, II. 156.

upon my being apprized where any of 'em may be apprehended.

I took the first Opportunity of laying before the Assembly of this Province the Copy of his Maj<sup>y</sup>'s Order in Council for settling the Boundary line between the province and Colony together with the Act of your Governm<sup>t</sup> appointing Commissioners to join with those of this Gov<sup>t</sup> in running and marking the line accordingly, and of recommending to 'em forthwith to choose Commissioners for this purpose, w<sup>ch</sup> I hope they will readily do. When it is done, I shall transmit you the first notice of it, that I can.<sup>1</sup>

I am with due regard, Sir,

Your Honour's Obedient, Humble servant

W SHIRLEY.

P. S. I hope that 800 of the Massachusetts levies are all long before this safely arriv'd at Annapolis,<sup>2</sup> w<sup>th</sup> a great Quantity of snow shoes; as also the two New Hampshire Companies: and that they may be a force sufficient for the purposes of his Majesty's service there.

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 12<sup>th</sup> month or Feb<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> 174~~8~~7.

*To the Governor of Rhode Island*

My last to thee was of the 13<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>ber</sup> last<sup>3</sup> to which I referr, Since which I have rec<sup>d</sup> thine relating to the

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<sup>1</sup> See note to letter of May 31, 1746.

<sup>2</sup> Parkman says that only 470 Massachusetts men, under Colonel Noble, finally reached Annapolis. *A Half Century of Conflict*, II. 199.

<sup>3</sup> Not in the archives.

Stores of 11<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>ber</sup><sup>1</sup> with a Smal Plan for the Colony, the other Plan and letter to the Lords Committee of Council has layn at the Council Office Sometime and have prest the Matter there very urgently that it might come under their Considerat<sup>n</sup> and have also been personally with the Duke of Dorset the Lord President but cannot as Yet get it forward so fast as I would, but shall still pursue it and do what I can in the Matter till it be accomplished which I hope for and am very desirous of Accomplishing. As for the Cape Breton affair at length the Report of the Lords Committee to the King in Council (which I heretofore writ off) has been Confirmed and who hath by an Order referred the Accounts to the Lords of Trade and the Secretary of War where it is likely to meet with Some Difficultys as well as Expence for them to examine and liquidate in Order that it may be brought into Parliam<sup>t</sup> (as thou may'st See by a Copy of the said Order herewith sent<sup>2</sup>) but whether we shall be able to get it through time enough this Sessions is uncertain; I shall use my best Endeavours with the others concern'd and get the Matter accommodated as soon as Possible; In Justice to W<sup>m</sup> Bollan Esq<sup>r</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirleys Son in Law<sup>3</sup> I must Say that I think he has been indefatigable in his Attendance and Solicitations therein to bring it thus forward as it is, for without the Massach<sup>ts</sup> had Preceded I find we should have made little of it.

As for News theres no Prospect of Peace yet, tho'

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<sup>1</sup> See above, p. 23.

<sup>2</sup> See the following document.

<sup>3</sup> Bollan was sent out by Massachusetts to urge the claims of the colony to be reimbursed for the expenses of the Cape Breton expedition.

the Congress at Breda is not quite Over; A Fleet of Men of War they say is fitting out at Brest again, but whether bound is a Secret and doubtless our Ministry will early have a Fleet also ready and be on the Watch. I am &c

R P

The fees &c<sup>a</sup> at the Council Office of this Order of Reference comes to £40.



AT THE COURT AT ST<sup>T</sup> JAMES'S <sup>1</sup>

the 15<sup>th</sup> day of January 1746.

*Present*

THE KINGS MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL

Whereas there was this day read at the Board a Report made by the Lords Committee of the Council upon considering the Petition of Richard Partridge Agent for the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England praying to be reimbursed the Expences they have been at in assisting to take and Secure the Island of Cape Breton and its Dependences, By which Report it is proposed in Consideration of the good Services performed by the said Colony in the Reduction of that Place to his Majesty's Obedience That a Reasonable Satisfaction should be made to them for their Expences therein,—And the said Lords of the Committee therefore submitted it to his Majesty whether

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with preceding letter.

it might not be advisable to recommend it to Parliament to make Provision for the same, And in the mean time to refer the said Demand to such Persons as his Majesty should think proper in order to adjust and Liquidate the same.

His Majesty taking the said Report into Consider<sup>n</sup> is hereby pleased with the advice of his Privy Council to approve of what is above proposed, and to order that the said Petition and Papers annexed be referred to the Lords Com<sup>rs</sup> for Trade and Planta<sup>n</sup> and his Majestys Sec<sup>y</sup> of War who are to meet and examine into the Demand made by the said Colony upon this Affair and to adjust and liquidate the Same.

W<sup>m</sup> SHARPE

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO THE GOVERNOR OF RHODE ISLAND.

LONDON 12 month or feb<sup>y</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1746

*To the Governor of Rhode Island &c<sup>a</sup>.*

I have already wrote thee per Cap<sup>t</sup> Kilby and Cap<sup>t</sup> Brown via Boston to which I refer; And now I apprehend it further my Duty to acquaint thee respecting the Expence your Colony have been at in raising and Subsisting 300 Men pursuant to the Duke of New Castles Letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> Apr<sup>l</sup> 1746.<sup>1</sup> If a just Acco<sup>t</sup> was made out thereof properly sworn to and Authenticated by thyself under the Seal of the Colony with Copy of the Dukes said Letter annexed Authorizing me as yo<sup>r</sup> Agent to receive the money it might be effected, and together with 2

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 162.

Bills of Exch<sup>a</sup> drawn in equal halves by thyself on the Lords Comiss<sup>rs</sup> of the Treasury for the amount of the whole in Sterl money reduced according to Exch<sup>a</sup> it would be very proper and Material for me to present in order for Payment, agreeable to what Gov<sup>r</sup> Clinton of N: York has lately done; a form of a Copy of one of his Bills of Exch<sup>a</sup> drawn on them have obtained and Send thee herewith,<sup>1</sup> but its probable that Some variation in those for Rhode Island must be made especially towards the latter end as thou wilt observe. I hear there are about £19000. Sterl. of his Bills lately come over hither w<sup>ch</sup> tho' the meet w<sup>th</sup> some hesitation yet its thought in time they will certainly be paid, but then I dont know but they will expect vouchers annexed also to the Acco as Gov<sup>r</sup> Clinton has mentioned them in his Bills, there must also be a letter of advice writ to the Lords of the Treasury properly Directed and Sent me to deliver. If there shoud be any demur w<sup>th</sup> the Sec<sup>ry</sup> of War and Board of Trade about our Acco<sup>ts</sup> for the Cape Breton Expedition to whom they are referr'd by the King to be examined I expect it will be for want of the necessa<sup>ry</sup> Vouchers of the several Articles in the acco<sup>t</sup> notwithstanding Jn<sup>o</sup> Gardner has attested them, Wherefore if the Bills of Parcells w<sup>th</sup> the Rec<sup>ts</sup> thereon for Such of the Articles in the Acco<sup>t</sup> as are material and other Receipts were duely Attested and Authenticated under the Seal and sent me it wo<sup>d</sup> I beleive make it much more likely and easy to pass through, and duplicates and Authentick Copys shoud also be sent for fear of

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<sup>1</sup> See the following document.



miscarriage, — this I write in time least they should be wanted: It certainly is worth while to take pains about it<sup>1</sup> I am Thy Assured Friend

R<sup>D</sup> PARTRIDGE

26<sup>th</sup>

Since the above I have been informed the Lords of Trade are likely to Spin out the time before the acco<sup>ts</sup> relating to Cape Breton are passed do all we can; that there will not be time to get into Parliament with them this Sessions, yet I dont much Doubt but it will be done ag<sup>st</sup> the Parliam<sup>t</sup> meets again

To The Govern<sup>r</sup> and Company of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

[Enclosure.]

NEW YORK 1<sup>st</sup> Novemb<sup>r</sup> 1746

Exch<sup>a</sup> for £

stel<sup>s</sup>

*My Lords*

Pursuant to his Grace Duke of New Castles Letter to me of the 9<sup>th</sup> Apr<sup>l</sup> last to make use of proper Measures to engage the five Nations of Indians to take part in an Expedition orderd by his Majesty for the Reduction of Canada to make them Such Presents as I think may be of Use for that Purpose, His Grace has also among other things recomended it to me to raise a large Body of Men within my Governm<sup>t</sup> as the Shortness of Time will permitt and as Clothing, Arms, Amunition, Tents, Camp necessarys and Battoes will be wanting on the part of this Province when the troops raised therein are to be transported into the Southen part of Canada likewise Battoes for the Use of some of the Neighbouring Provinces orderd upon this Service; Youll be Pleased on thirty days sight of this my Second of Exch<sup>a</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> An order of the Assembly to send the required vouchers is in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 218.



the Forces sent from this Province for driving the Enemy out of Nova Scotia, which tho I would attribute in part to some Neglect of Duty in the Officers in not keeping a good Watch to prevent a Surprise yet I must be of Opinion that the principal Cause of this Misfortune is, that the neighbouring Governm<sup>ts</sup> have not afforded us due Assistance against the Enemy in this important Enterprize. The particular Circumstances of this Misfortune you will understand by the inclosed Papers<sup>1</sup> and Print, which contains authentick Accounts, that I shall not take up in repeating here; Our Business being now to look forward and do every thing in our Power to strengthen our Forces in Nova Scotia, by making them an Overmatch for the Enemy; And as M<sup>r</sup> Mascarene apprehends it necessary to make up the Number twelve or fifteen hundred, I am fully of Opinion with him that less than twelve hundred will not be sufficient, but that it will be more convenient to make up the Number to fifteen hundred; which, with the arm'd Vessels belonging to the several Colonies in New England, would I hope (by the Blessing of God) make the Conquest easy and expeditious, and discourage the Enemy from any future Attempts: The absolute Necessity of making such a vigorous Attempt for driving the Enemy out of that Province,<sup>2</sup> and the vast Interest which all the Colonies in New England, as well as the Crown of Great Britain have in this Event, must I think be obvious to every thinking Man that has the least Affection and Zeal for the common Cause of his Country; And it is no

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<sup>1</sup> See the following document.

<sup>2</sup> Nova Scotia.

less evident that the present Season is the very critical Conjunction for the effectual Execution of this design, which if once lost may never be retrieved; and so the Neglect of improving it be attended with such Calamities and Disasters as will not be fully understood 'till they are felt: This being the Case, I must press your Honour in the strongest manner to make up as large a Body of Troops as you can, and send them well appointed with all possible Expedition, with your Colony Vessel of War, for this Service. There are now three hundred Men remaining at Annapolis for this Service, allowing for a hundred and fifty Men of the Garrison, who can be spared while our Men, who are restrained by Capitulation from acting against the Enemy up the Bay,<sup>1</sup> may keep Garrison in their room; Besides which three hundred Men I have three hundred more ready to send, provided the several Governm<sup>ts</sup> in New England will do their parts to make up a Body of twelve hundred Men, or if they will make it up fifteen hundred Troops, I shall much more chearfully bear my Part of that Number. I am aware that some may object against this Proceeding, that the Troops may be call'd for on the Expedition against Canada before they can return from Nova Scotia; But as it is not probable that that will be the Case, especially if we be expeditious in this Business, so they will be in as great or greater readiness to proceed from Annapolis Royal than from their respective Colonies, be better secur'd from Desertions, and be more

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<sup>1</sup> The terms of surrender were that the English at Grand Pré should not bear arms within the next six months in the district about the head of the Bay of Fundy.

inur'd to the Hardships and Discipline of War, and consequently the more fit for Service than they will be if they stay at home. I hope the Expence of Provisions and Transports will be no Obstacle to your sending a Reinforcem<sup>t</sup> to Nova Scotia upon this extraordinary Emergency; if your Assembly should refuse to bear that, which I hope they will not, I am perswaded your Honour may in such Case safely take up Provisions and Transports at the Charge of the Crown upon this particular Occasion, and that your Honours Bills of Exchange upon the Lords of the Treasury in favour of such Persons as shall advance a Sum in Bills of Credit for this Service, will be duly paid. And as an Inducem<sup>t</sup> to the Men to go more chearfully upon this Duty, I am determin'd to advance sixteen Pounds old Tenour to every Man whom I shall send upon it, and to draw Bills of Exchange upon the Lords of Treasury; And as for the Officers who shall proceed in it, I doubt not but they will greatly recommend themselves to his Majesty thereby.

From the Disposition your Honour shew'd to assist in the Protection of Nova Scotia the last Fall,<sup>1</sup> tho' it happen'd to fail of it's intended Effect, I doubt not but you will now exert yourself with the utmost Vigour in this Part of his Majesty's Service, and for the general Good of the Colonies.

You must be sensible, Sir, what immediate Dispatch this Business requires, and that not an Hour's time should be lost for effecting it; I purpose to have the Reinforcement w<sup>ch</sup> I shall send from this

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<sup>1</sup> See letter of November 4, 1746, and note.

Province at Annapolis by the End of this Month at farthest (if possible) to be ready there to proceed to Minas or Schiegnecto, as the Case shall require, before M<sup>r</sup> De Ramsay's Vessels can get away from thence, and I must desire the favour of your Answer by the Bearer.<sup>1</sup>

I am Sir,

Your Honour's most Obedient humble Servant

W SHIRLEY.

P. S. Tho' I have very lately receiv'd an Answer from your Honour, wherein you acquaint me that your Governm<sup>t</sup> then declin'd sending the Levies rais'd by them to Nova Scotia;<sup>2</sup> yet I hope the late Event at Minas will induce 'em to alter their Resolution; and that you will not fail to send both your Colony Sloop and your levies.

The hon<sup>ble</sup> WILLIAM GREENE Esq<sup>r</sup>



RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.<sup>3</sup>

At a Council held at the Council Chamber in BOSTON upon Fryday  
February 27<sup>th</sup> 1747.

His Excellency having communicated to this Board Advices he has receiv'd from Nova Scotia, by which it appears that the Enemy has obtain'd considerable Advantages over his Majesty's Troops raised in this Province, and sent thither for the De-

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<sup>1</sup> See Greene's answer of March 6.

<sup>2</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 211.

<sup>3</sup> Enclosed with letter of March 4, 1747.

fence of that Province; And the Board being of Opinion that the Preservation of that Country is of the utmost Importance as well for the Interest of the Crown as the Safety of his Majesty's Northern Colonies.

Advised that his Exc<sup>y</sup> send to the Governors of the neighbouring Colonies to inform them of this State of Affairs in Nova Scotia, and in the most pressing manner to desire that they would without delay prepare a Number of Troops, and transport them to Nova Scotia, and send their respective arm'd Vessels thither to join with the King's Troops raised in this Province, and such Vessels as may be sent from hence, that so there may be a sufficient Force for the driving the Enemy out of that Country.

Copy examined per J WILLARD Secretary.

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GOVERNOR GREENE TO GOVERNOR SHIRLEY.

BRISTOL 6 March at 2 Clock afternoon.

S<sup>r</sup>

Just now Rec<sup>d</sup> your Express of the 4<sup>th</sup> Instant<sup>1</sup> and am Sorry for the Misfortune of the Troops at Annapolis And in Answer to Your Excelencies Request Shall Do everything in my Power to Cause this Colony to Do their Proportion, towards assisting Annapolis, but Do not Apprehend its in my Power To act in that affare without the Gen<sup>l</sup> assembly And as I have before Inform<sup>d</sup> Your Excelency

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<sup>1</sup> See preceding letter.

that our Gard Sloop is not only out of Repare And her Men all Discharged, but the provisions and Store Laid in by this Colony (when Designed for Annapolis are Disposed of — so that at present I Cannot Informe Your Excelency what Resolution this Colony will Come into.

I am S<sup>r</sup> Your Most Humble Servant

W. GREENE

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO THE GOVERNOR OF RHODE ISLAND.

LONDON 3d month the 20. 1747

*To the Govern<sup>r</sup> of Rh<sup>d</sup> Island &c<sup>a</sup>*

My last to thee was of 24<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> month<sup>1</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of 2<sup>d</sup> month<sup>2</sup> last about the Colonys Affairs, since which I have received none of thy favours w<sup>ch</sup> probably might have miscarried as there have been 2 or 3 Ships from Boston lately taken by the Enemy viz Cap<sup>t</sup> Prince, Cap<sup>t</sup> Watts, and a Ship bound to N. Castle.

I hope ere this time the Dividing Line of the Boundaries is Run (tho' probably the Province of the Massachus<sup>ts</sup> did not joyn in the doing it) and that the Inhab<sup>ts</sup> on the Borders are thereby quieted in their Possessions.<sup>3</sup>

As to our Demand for the Expence in the Expedition against Cape Breton, that Matter having been before the Board of Trade on a Reference from the King in Council (as I heretofore advised thee) they

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<sup>1</sup> See above, p. 38.

<sup>2</sup> Not in the archives.

<sup>3</sup> See note to letter of May 31, 1746.



have made their Report thereupon (a Copy of the Purport thereof comes inclosed,<sup>1</sup>) and it lays now at the Council Office for the Lords of the Council to proceed upon, w<sup>ch</sup> we expect they will shortly, but we can hardly expect the Money to be paid I find till next Sesions of Parliam<sup>t</sup> to any of us — and this Sessions they say will break up in abo<sup>t</sup> 3 weeks time wherein nothing has been done to the prejudice of the Plantations.

I have not been able to obtain the Stores yet for the Colony tho' often Solicited for but shall continue my Endeavours.

As for Publick News, The War with France and Spain continues and no likelyhood of Peace, — The Dutch have lately chosen the Pr: of Orange their Stadholder w<sup>ch</sup> will add vigour to the Allies and be a mortifica<sup>n</sup> to the French, and it's expected that the Dutch will now the more readily come in to take part in the War: The D. of Cumberland is at the Head of an Army of abo<sup>t</sup> 100000. Men in Fland<sup>r</sup> and that a gen<sup>l</sup> Battle will soon happen there. Admirals Anson and Warren have been out w<sup>th</sup> a consid<sup>ble</sup> Number of Men of War on a Cruize lately and met with a Fleet of Men of War East India Men and Transports of 38 Saile newly sailed out of Rochell<sup>2</sup> in France of which they have taken 6 French Men of War of 74, 66, 56, 52, 52, and 44 Guns and 6 East India Ships and 2 Transports w<sup>th</sup> Stores

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<sup>1</sup> See the following document.

<sup>2</sup> The French fleet under La Jonquière (who had brought home the remnant of D'Anville's unfortunate squadron) sailed from Rochelle May 10, 1747, and on May 14 met, and was defeated by, the English under Anson and Warren.

(w<sup>ch</sup> its Supposed cost in the whole a million or a Million and half Sterl<sup>s</sup>) and thereby have doubtless quite disconcerted their designs w<sup>ch</sup> was as they say, when their Fleet had Sailed together for sometime to have divided themselves, Two of the Men of War and part of the Fleet were bound to the East Indies, and the rest of the Men of War and Transports to Canada after Endeavouring to retake Cape Breton by the Way.

I am with due Respects

Thy assured Friend

RICH<sup>D</sup> PARTRIDGE

27 ditto

this day 20. Waggon's load of Silver and Gold was bro<sup>t</sup> to this City from Portsm<sup>o</sup> the prize money taken in' the above Ships by Admir<sup>ls</sup> Anson and Warren and a pretty deal more expected up

To The Governour and Company of  
Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

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REPORT OF THE LORDS OF TRADE.<sup>1</sup>

That they had been attended by the Agent who laid before them an account of Expences of the Colony of Rhode Island, in the Reduction and Securing of Cape Breton, Attested upon Oath to be a true account by John Gardiner Commissary Gen<sup>l</sup> and certified under the Seal of the Colony of Rhode

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with letter of May 20, 1747.

Island by Gideon Wanton Gov<sup>r</sup> the particulars of which said Acco<sup>t</sup> are distinguished under the following head, viz. &c<sup>a</sup>

And after reciting the several heads of the Acts of Assembly and hints of the Substance of General Pepperrell and Admiral Warrens Letters — they say

But as the said Petitioner had no Vouchers of the several Particulars of the said Account, or any other Evidence than what appears upon the Face thereof to lay before Us that might enable Us to adjust and Liquidate the Same pursuant to the directions of Your Majestys Order in Council, We must humbly Submit the said Acco<sup>t</sup> a Copy whereof is hereunto annexed to Your Majesty's Pleasure.<sup>1</sup>

MONSON

R PLUMER

H. FOX

B LEVESON GOWER

FRA. FANE

WHITEHALL

May 12. 1747

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GOVERNOR WANTON<sup>2</sup> TO GOVERNOR SHIRLEY.

NEWPORT the 22<sup>d</sup> May 1747

*Sir*

This Serves to acknowledge the Reci<sup>t</sup> of your Excleny's letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> Instant<sup>3</sup> with an Extract from Coll. Stodards Letter Inclosed: As to what your Excel<sup>cy</sup> Signifies of the necessity in assisting of the Indians of the Six nations I shall Communicate

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 218.

<sup>2</sup> Elected governor in May, 1747.

<sup>3</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 216.

the Same to our Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly which Sits here by AdJournment on the Second Tusday in June Next and use my Endeavors to have a Due Consideration thereon; and then Shall acquaint you of Theire Resolution on that affaire and am with Due Respects &c. your most<sup>1</sup>

assured freind and Servt

GID. WANTON

Endorsed: To Gov<sup>r</sup> SHIRLEY.

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GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO GOVERNOR WANTON.

BOSTON June 1. 1747

*Sir,*

I wrote to your Honour the 18<sup>th</sup> of May<sup>2</sup> last to inform you of the State of Affairs in relation to the Six Nations and the general Inclination among 'em to prosecute the War against Our Common Enemy, and thereupon to desire that your Government would encourage this Spirit in those Indians by making such Supplies for fitting 'em out and rewarding their Services, as may be necessary for that End. Since the Date of my Letter Our General Court are met and having taken the same Matter under Consideration, have Voted One Thousand Pounds New Tenor to be put into the Hands of Col<sup>o</sup> Stoddard<sup>3</sup> to be

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<sup>1</sup> The Assembly declined "to bear part of the charge and expense of encouraging and fitting out the Six Nations of Indians to prosecute the war against the French." *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 218.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 216.

<sup>3</sup> Colonel John Stoddard of Northampton, Superintendent of Defence of the county of Hampshire in western Massachusetts, and for several years a member of the Council of the province. He died in 1748.

employ'd in this Service, which together with £750. before remitted him in Goods by Order of the Government, being added to the many Presents which this Governm<sup>t</sup> have made to those Indians since the Beginning of the War, may justly be esteemed so large a Proportion of the Charge, necessary in the most effectual Manner to encourage the six Nations to Prosecute this War, that if the other Governm<sup>ts</sup> in North America would grant proportionable Sums for the same Service, it is highly probable that the Success of these Attempts would more than Answer our Expence, it being the most likely way to weaken and distress the French at present, and to make way for the Reduction of Canada, whenever it may be attempted.

This I write to your Honour at the Request of our General Assembly (who are much concerned to have this Affair succeed) as well as from my own earnest Desire to promote an Affair in which I think his Majesty's Interest and the Safety of his Good Subjects in these Colonies is so deeply concerned; And therefore I must pray your Honour to lay this Matter before your Assembly, and use your Influence for bringing them to join with us in promoting this Service

I am Sir

Your Honour's humble Servant

W SHIRLEY

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> GIDEON WANTON Esq<sup>r</sup>

SECRETARY WILLARD TO GOVERNOR WANTON.

BOSTON June 20. 1747

*Sir,*

I am directed by the General Court of this Province to acquaint your Honour, that his Exc<sup>y</sup> our Governour has determined (at the request of both Houses) to send a Flag of Truce to Canada, with Commissioners to proceed therein to Quebec, in order to procure the redemption of all such English Prisoners belonging to this Governm<sup>t</sup> and the Governm<sup>ts</sup> of New Hampshire, Connecticut and Rhode Island as may be within that Governm<sup>t</sup>, and to use all possible Care to recover such of the s<sup>d</sup> English Captives as may be in the hands of the Indians; And that all the french Prisoners that may be obtained within these Governments be sent in the Flag of Truce to Canada; And I am further to inform your Honour that the Resolution of this Governm<sup>t</sup> in the said Affair is taken in Confidence that the Governments of New Hampshire, Connecticut and Rhode Island will join in the Expence that will arise by the sending the said Flag of Truce in proportion to the Number of Prisoners belonging to each Government that may be redeemed;<sup>1</sup> And it is also desired that your Honour would give Orders that whatever french Prisoners are within your Colony be forthwith got ready to be sent hither in order to their being transported to Canada in the said Flag of Truce. Your Honour will be pleas'd to let this Government

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<sup>1</sup> For a list of the Rhode Island prisoners, see below.

know your Determination in this Affair as soon as you can with Convenience.

I am Sir,

Your Honours most Obedient and most humble  
Servant

JOSIAH WILLARD

The hon<sup>ble</sup> GIDEON WANTON Esq<sup>r</sup>

*List of Rhode Island Prisoners.*

A List of Prisoners belonging to Rhode Island, and returned to Boston in the Flag of Truce from Quebec, Aug<sup>st</sup> 16. 1747.

John Pike

Edw<sup>d</sup> Tew

John Years

Gregory Cousins

Jacob Judah

Samuel Sayers

Extract

Examined by J WILLARD Secy.



GOVERNOR WANTON TO GOVERNOR SHIRLEY.

NEWPORT ON RHODE ISLAND august 26<sup>th</sup> 1747

*Sir.*

I have Received Your Excellencys Letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> Current<sup>1</sup> the matters therein Contained are of Such a nature that I have no authority to act upon

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 224. There is no note upon this matter in the Assembly records.

them; and make with your Excellency any agreement relating thereto that can be obligatory upon this Government; the Generall Assembly of this Collony is to Sit the Next week; and it being there province alone to Determine in all Such Things as are recommended to me in your Excellencys Leter; I will then lay it before them, together with the papers that accompanied it; tis impossible for me to tell what they will resolve upon; but I think it highly probable that they Will readiley agree to bear the proportionable Part of the Charge for Transporting the Six Prisoners, mentioned by your Excellency, from Canada to Boston

I am Sir

yours

G. WANTON

Endorsed:

To His Excellency WILLIAM SHIRLEY Esq<sup>r</sup>

Gov<sup>r</sup> of the province of the Massachusets Bay



PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOR SHIRLEY AND GOVERNOR  
KNOWLES.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle having in his Letter to Governour Shirley<sup>1</sup> Signified that His Majesty finding it necessary to Employ the greatest part of His Forces to Assist His Allies and defend the Libertys of Europe Had thought proper for the

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<sup>1</sup> A letter from Shirley of October 10, enclosing extracts of the letter of the Duke of Newcastle referred to here, is in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 227, 229. For Governor Wanton's replies, see *Ibid.*, V. 230, 233. This *Proclamation* was evidently enclosed with Shirley's letter of October 29, *Ibid.*, V. 231.



present to lay aside the Prosecution of the intended Expedition against Canada and Commanded him and Governour Knowles to discharge all the Forces raised for that Service (excepting such as they should Judge necessary to be kept in Pay for Securing the Province of Nova Scotia) and to thank the Officers and Men in His Majesty's Name for their readiness and Zeal to enter into His Service.

In Consequence thereof we do hereby discharge all the Said Officers and Men (except four Hundred) out of His Majestys Service from the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 1747 and they are hereby discharged accordingly.

And We do also thank them in His Majesty's Royal Name for their readiness to Engage in their Country's Cause against the Common Enemy and though they are prevented at present of Revenging themselves on a Cruel Perfidious Enemy it cannot be doubted but that the same Zeal and Spirit will always Animate them to Serve again when ever they are called upon. Given under our Hands this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October 1747.

W SHIRLEY.

CHA<sup>s</sup> KNOWLES.

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GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO GOVERNOR WANTON.

BOSTON Nov: 24. 1747

*Sir*

Since my last to Your Honour, M<sup>r</sup> Knowles and I have reciev'd a Letter from Governour Clinton wherein he acquaints us that he has hitherto paid

the Levies *of his own* Government, Maryland, Virginia, and Pensilvania after the Rate of 6<sup>d</sup> Sterling per day over and above their Provisions, w<sup>ch</sup> have been allow'd 'em and that he shall pay 'em the Remainder now due to 'em at the same Rate: Whereupon M<sup>r</sup> Knowles and I think the Rate of paying the Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island Levies is so far fix'd by M<sup>r</sup> Clinton's having proceeded thus in paying off the Western Levies that we think any Abatement in the Pay of the New Engl<sup>d</sup> Levies or Stoppage for Provisions or billeting Money allow'd 'em by the Colonies wo'd raise the utmost Discontent among the Soldiers and be greatly prejudicial to his Majesty's Service in New England upon any future Expedition, and have therefore determin'd that the Levies of the three beforemention'd New England Colonies shall be paid of[f] at the Rate of 6<sup>d</sup> a day Sterling clear of Stoppages for Provisions or billeting Money allow'd 'em by the Governm<sup>ts</sup>.<sup>1</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> Determination we the more readily come into as we find it is agreeable to the General Opinion of the Governours concern'd in the Expedition; and I now acquaint You with it that the Men may be paid off at the Rate of 6<sup>d</sup> Sterling per day clear of any Stoppage for Provisions found 'em by Your Colony.

I must now observe to Your Honour that the Acco<sup>ts</sup> transmitted to M<sup>r</sup> Knowles and myself by the Hands

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<sup>1</sup> Shirley's first plan was to pay the men 6d. per day from the time of embarkation for Nova Scotia till their return to their respective colonies; before and after those times a stoppage was to be made for provisions, and the men to receive but 2d. per day. In no respect were Newcastle's directions so explicit as in the desire to avoid expense. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 229, 232.

of Colonel Kennecutt seem fram'd to make the Crown Debtor for the billeting Money and Provisions found by Your Colony for the Soldiers rais'd within it for the late intended Expedition, as also for the Vessells hir'd to transport 'em and Your Colony Sloop fitted out for their Guard; as to the first of which Articles I wo'd acquaint You that it was expected by his Majesty to be found at the Expence of all the Colonies concern'd for the Soldiers rais'd within their particular Governm<sup>ts</sup> and requir'd from 'em by his Majesty so to be; and that Your Colony is single in it's Demands upon the Crown for the Provisions which they have purchas'd for their Respective levies and Transports or Vessells of Warr provided by it on their Account and the only one that appears to M<sup>r</sup> Knowles and me yet to have made it; and it is evident from the Tenour of Your Act,<sup>1</sup> a Copy of which You inclos'd me, that it was not the Intention of Your Government at the time of making it, that either the Provisions or Transports and Vessells of Warr found by it, sho'd be charg'd to the Crown; I'm sure it never enter'd into the Thoughts of this Government to do it. I hope therefore You will reconsider these two Articles and explain Yourself farther upon them; For M<sup>r</sup> Knowles and I shall think ourselves oblig'd to observe upon both of 'em to the Duke of Newcastle in the same Manner that I now do to Your Honour.

M<sup>r</sup> Knowles and I observe Medecines charg'd and Expences in taking Care of the Sick, for satisfying which we wo'd advise You to make a Deduction of

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 172, 173.

the three pence Sterl<sup>s</sup> per Month out of the Pay of private Men, four pence per Month from the Corporals, and six pence from the Sergeants to pay it; as I shall do from the Non-Commission Officers and private Men rais'd within this Government: For we don't think any thing will be allow'd for it by the Crown as it is usual to provide for it by Deductions from the Men.

If there are any other Articles upon which it may be necessary for me to observe to Your Honour, which I don't recollect at present I will transmit 'em by next Post, but having but just time now to save the Post, I shall only desire Your Answer by the Return of it, to this, as I must dispatch away an Express to England the Beginning of next Week, and wo'd fain include Your Accounts in it.

I must also beg of You to let Col<sup>l</sup> Kinnicutt know, that M<sup>r</sup> Knowles and I shall give Certificates to the Officers of what is due to 'em sign'd by both of us to intitule 'em to their Pay w<sup>th</sup> the Paymaster General of his Majesty's forces and that if he will furnish me w<sup>th</sup> an Acco<sup>t</sup> of what is due to the Rhode Island Officers and let me see him in time; I will give them such Certificates; which will probably be more satisfactory to 'em than any Method they can think of for adjusting the Pay due to 'em. I am

Your Honour's Most Humble Servant

W SHIRLEY.

Govern<sup>r</sup> WANTON.

COLONEL KINNICUTT<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR WANTON.

*Sir*

Governour Shirley informs me that agreeable to his Instruction from the Duke of New Castle he had applyd To thiss Goverment To furnish the Money To pay of the three Companies Raised in thiss Colony for the Intended Expedition against Canada<sup>2</sup> To which application he had not Received a full answer but was in Termes to thiss purpose that they Should not or Could not do it at the preasent Which he Says is nither a Denial nor acceptence and that he Could not act With any propriety in Drawing of Bills or any other matter that Related to the affair Without he had a full and absolute answer Wheather the Goverment Would furnish the money or not I desire in behalf of the officers and Soldiers, that a full and peremptory answer may be Given him Which Done I hope no New objection will occur but that the affair may be Brought to a Speedy Conclusion Mean While I am With Due Respect your

Honours most Humb<sup>e</sup> Servant

EDWARD KINNICUTT

PROVIDENCE, February 13 : 1747

To the Honourable GIDION WANTON Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Governour at Newport

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<sup>1</sup> Lieutenant-colonel of the three companies sent to Canada in 1746.

<sup>2</sup> See Newcastle's directions in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 229. For resolution of the Assembly, *Ibid.*, V. 226, and for measures finally adopted, viz., an emission of bills of credit, *Ibid.*, V. 243.

GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO GOVERNOR WANTON.

BOSTON Feb<sup>r</sup> 29. 1747<sup>1</sup>

*Sir,*

The General Assembly of this Province presuming upon their Claim to a Reimbursm<sup>t</sup> of the Charges of the late Expedition against Cape Breton, have been employing their thoughts to find out some Method of improving such Reimbursm<sup>t</sup>, so as to put an End to the present Paper Currency, And they have projected a Bill (which has had two Readings in the Assembly) for this Purpose, a Copy of which I shall now inclose you: As there are Bills of each of the four Governm<sup>ts</sup> of New England, which have obtained a Currency thro' the whole, it was judged proper before any thing be finally determined here, that a Conference should be had by Commissioners from each Governm<sup>t</sup>, that so, if possible, one general Method or Scheme might be agreed on; And you will see by the Vote inclos'd that Commissioners have accordingly been chosen by this Government; And I must desire your Honour to recommend it to your Assembly to join in this Affair which is of such vast Importance, and for effecting which it's probable there never may be so happy an Opportunity hereafter.<sup>1</sup>

We have no absolute Certainty that any Grant will be made by the Parliament, but there is great Reason to expect it, and our latest Advices are that it will be done the present Session; And the Assembly here seem'd to be of Opinion that unless some

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<sup>1</sup> Rhode Island did not act upon this well-timed suggestion.

speedy Provision should be made on this Side the Water, great Endeavours will be used that these Governm<sup>ts</sup> should be obliged to draw out their Grants by Bills of Exchange,<sup>1</sup> the Consequence of which would be the Importation of vast Quantities of Goods, and perhaps the Exchange would be set at such a Rate as would be to the great damage of the Publick much beyond the present Value of the Bills of Credit, and what the Generality of the present Possessors have no equitable Claim to. The Assembly have propos'd this Province to meet in, because it is nearest the Center, and as the Gentlemen can best be accomodated in the Town of Boston, it is propos'd their first Meeting shall be held there. The Memorial refer'd to in the Report I have not sent a Copy of, the Proposals contained therein being much the same with what is propos'd by this Bill.

I have sent Letters of the same Tenor with this to the Governours of New Hampshire and Connecticut; I shall expect your Answer as soon as may be.

I am Sir

Your Honour's most Obedient humble Servant  
W SHIRLEY.

The hon<sup>ble</sup> Governour WANTON

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR WANTON.

LONDON 2d mo. the 8<sup>th</sup> 1748.

*To the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Rhode Island,*

I have received Gov<sup>r</sup> Wantons Packet dated 11<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> last with the 2 Bills on the Lords of the Trea-

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<sup>1</sup> The money was paid in specie.

sury<sup>1</sup> for £6481.16.1. and £3662.13.3 Sterl<sup>s</sup> together with the Acco<sup>t</sup> and Vouchers of the Colonys Expence in raising forces for the intended Canada Expedition<sup>2</sup> &c. per Cap<sup>t</sup> Bruce via Boston and have left the Bills at the Treasury for acceptance and Offered to leave the other papers also but it was not thought fit to receive them at that time, so shall attend with them at the Office again intending to use my best Endeavours for procuring payment. I hope it is not too late as the Parliam<sup>t</sup> are not likely to break up their Sessions so soon as was talkt off, neither will the King now go over to Flanders this year as it seems to be generally the Opinion of People.

This now incloses the Votes of the House of Commons wherein thou wilt See they have at length resolved amongst others that a Sum not exceeding £6332.12.10. be granted for Our Colonys Expence in the Cape Breton Expedition (on the Success whereof I congratulate the Colony,) which Sum I think amounts exactly to our demand at the Exch<sup>a</sup> of 570 per C<sup>t</sup> which is pretty near as the Exch<sup>a</sup> was at that time. and as I am informed, one of the last things to be done and pass'd at the Conclusion of the Sessions will be an Appropriating Bill for the L<sup>ds</sup> of the Treasury to make payment pursuant to the Resolutions on the Supply, which perhaps may be some considerable time afterwards, in the manner as it shall please them to do it, for which we must wait their leisure, and because of not disgusting them at this Critical Juncture it will not be prudent for me

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<sup>1</sup> See Wanton's letter to the Lords of the Treasury, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 286.

<sup>2</sup> The troops intended for the relief of Annapolis Royal.



to teize them too much yet a while about the other money aforesaid; out of the first money I receive of either I intend to pay the Gov<sup>r</sup> Bills on me in favour of Jos: Jacob, E Scott, H. Collins, and S. Ayrault.

I am with due respects to thy self and Gentlemen of the Council and House of Representatives

Thy and their Assured Friend,

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

I am preparing my Acco<sup>ts</sup> to be sent over according to the Vote of the Assembly in Octo<sup>r</sup> last.<sup>1</sup>

Commod<sup>r</sup> Coats with four of our Men of War sent out to join Adm<sup>l</sup> Hawks Squadron met with a Fleet of 9 Men of War and 27. Sail of Spaniards from Cadiz bound for the Spanish West Indies out of which was taken by our said Men of War 3. Register Ships supposed to be very rich and two other small Prizes

R. P.

To The Governour and Company  
of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 3 month 20<sup>th</sup> 1748.

*To the Govern<sup>r</sup> of Rhode Island &c<sup>a</sup>*

I wrote thee last of the 8<sup>th</sup> Instant,<sup>2</sup> Since which I have been diligently Soliciting for the Payment of the Bills drawn on the Treasury<sup>3</sup> but find it will

<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 226.

<sup>2</sup> See the preceding letter.

<sup>3</sup> Bills drawn to cover the expenses of the troops sent to Annapolis Royal.

take more time and trouble than I expected but intend to leave no Stone unturn'd till it be effected. the Duke of NewCastle has not yet made a Return to the Lords of the Treasurys letters which was wrote about the Affair (a Copy whereof comes inclosed)<sup>1</sup> whereupon I have drawn up a Petition to him annexing Copys of his Several Letters and of Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirleys and lodged at his Office, a Copy of which Petition comes also inclosed,<sup>2</sup> which I hope will also induce him to do his part and then I must address the Lords of the Treasury in something of the Same Sort. I queried at the Treasury Office what the reason should be of their delay more on our Bills than of those from the Gov<sup>r</sup> of New York which have been paid and the answer was in Substance that the New York Gov<sup>r</sup> had not yet sent his acco<sup>ts</sup> and what he drew was only on acco<sup>t</sup> of their Expence, and that he was Still accountable for what he drew as being the Kings Govern<sup>r</sup> and then the Relationship that there was between him and the first Comm<sup>r</sup> of the Treasury might be some Consideration, but yet what was done by Rhode Island Colony was in Obedience to the Kings Orders Signified fully by the Dukes Lett<sup>rs</sup>. I am apt to think they cannot hissitate a great while longer about it which would be very dishonourable, and I shall push it on as fast as is convenient but must have patience. And<sup>r</sup> Stone the Dukes head Secretary is gone over with the King which is another impediment to us he promised me before he went that an answer should be return'd instantly to the Treasury, but he failed doing it. there is no

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<sup>1</sup> See the following document.

<sup>2</sup> Not in the archives.

further talk that I can learn yet when the Cape Breton money will be paid but hope it will in 3. or 4. mo<sup>s</sup> time, but I have been considering it woud be really necessary for Your Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly to pass an Act empowering me as their Agent to receive the £6332.12.10. Sterl<sup>s</sup> voted by Parliam<sup>t</sup> and give a proper discharge for it, for the Rhode Island Expence for assisting to take and Secure Cape Breton least when the money comes to be paid it should be objected to me that the Gov<sup>r</sup> Authority only is not Authentick enough. I find the Connec<sup>t</sup> Agent has such an Act transmitted him from that Colony and it will be no hurt if not made use off.

I herewith send thee the Kings Speech at pro-roguing the Parliam<sup>t</sup> soon after which he took Shipping to go over to his Germain Dominions.

The Preliminary Articles for a Cessation of Arms with France are now ratified<sup>1</sup> and it is to be hoped a Peace will take effect accordingly and that the Spaniards will also come in to the Treaty which as yet they have not for the rest I refer to the Prints herewith sent, and remain

Thy assured Friend,

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

To The Governour and Company of the Colony  
of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations,  
New England

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<sup>1</sup> See letter from the Duke of Bedford, of May 7, 1748, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 247.

J. WEST<sup>1</sup> TO ANDREW STONE.<sup>2</sup>

Copy of a Letter from the Treasury sent to the Duke of NewCastles  
Office

*Sir*

The Gov<sup>r</sup> of Rh<sup>d</sup> Island and Providence Planta-  
tions having by letter dat<sup>d</sup> 9 Jan<sup>ry</sup> 1747 acquainted  
the L<sup>ds</sup> Comm<sup>rs</sup> of his Maj<sup>ty</sup>s Treasury that pursuant  
to the Kings Commands transmitted to them from  
the Duke of NewCastle they had raised three  
Companys of Soldiers for an Expedition intended  
ag<sup>st</sup> Canada and incurr'd Several publick expences  
amounting in the whole to £76083.11.4. Currency  
according to the Vouchers by him sent to their  
Agent here and that he had drawn Bills on their  
Lordships for the value thereof to the amount of  
£10144.9.6 Sterl w<sup>ch</sup> Bills have been accordingly  
presented for acceptance: I am thereupon directed  
by their L<sup>d</sup>ships to send you the inclosed Copy of  
the Said letter to be communicated to his Grace with  
[the] desire that he will let them know whether the  
said Expences incurred and [the] Bills drawn are  
agreable in point of time or otherwise to the several  
Orders sent to the West Indies relating to Service  
of this kind

I am Sir Your most humble Servant

J. WEST

TREASURY CHAMBER 27<sup>th</sup> of April 1748

TO ANDREW STONE Esq<sup>r</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> James West, politician and antiquary. He was treasurer and president of the Royal Society, as well as joint secretary to the treasury. This last-named office he held from 1741 to 1762.

<sup>2</sup> Enclosed with letter of May 20, 1748.

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 4<sup>th</sup> mo the 1<sup>st</sup> 1748

*To the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Rhode Island &c<sup>a</sup>*

My last to thee was of the 20<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>1</sup> to which I refer, As to the Bills of Exch<sup>a</sup> on the Treasury there is little further to be done therein at present that Board being adjourned over this time of Whitsuntide till next Week and then I shall pursue the Matter again in order to get the Bills accepted, but by what I can learn they miss'd it in Sending to the Duke of NewCastle for information, which should have been to the Duke of Bedford he being lately put into his Place as Secretary of State<sup>2</sup> for the Plantations and all the Copys of Letters and Papers removed from D: of NewCastles Office to that of the Duke of Bedfords, and I doubt the Treasury must Send to him for the Information they want about the Orders given per the Canada Expedition. the Massachus<sup>s</sup> Connecticut nor New Jersey acco<sup>ts</sup> on that head I dont find are yet delivered in, but those of New Jersey I am advised are coming over to me, amounting to about £5000. Sterling.

As for Publick News I refer thee to the Print here inclosed and to others sent thee per this Conveyance to my Friend And<sup>r</sup> Oliver and Co: to forward and remain

Thy assured Friend

R. P.

The King is safe arrived in Holland going to Hannover.

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<sup>1</sup> See letter on p. 64.

<sup>2</sup> Appointed Secretary of State, to succeed Lord Chesterfield in 1747.

17<sup>th</sup> Ditto.

Since the foregoing they finding at the Treasury on my information their mistake in sending to the Duke of Newcastle as aforesaid wrote a Letter (of which inclosed is a Copy<sup>1</sup>) to the same effect to the Duke of Bedfords Office and Rec<sup>d</sup> a Return thereto, and I delivered a Petition to the Treasury<sup>2</sup> setting forth the State of our Case relating to the 2 Bills of Exchange drawn on them by Gov<sup>r</sup> Wanton for Your Expence in the late Canada Expedition &c<sup>a</sup>, and now I have the Pleasure after diverse Solicitations and attendances to acquaint thee that on my being again yesterday at the Treasury which was their Board day and the Lords Sitting, at length obtained their grant of an Order to the Paymaster of the Forces to accept both the Bills amounting together to £10144.9.6. Sterl and to pay them accordingly, with which Order (of which I likewise send thee a Copy<sup>3</sup>), I went Imediatly to the Paymasters Office and got them accepted from the 16<sup>th</sup> Inst. to be paid agreeable to the time mentioned therein, and Since that I have accepted Gov<sup>r</sup> Wantons four Bills which he redrew on me for the Colonys Acco<sup>t</sup>. But it must be observed that in the Secretarys Order to the Paymaster of the Forces it is mentioned that Gov<sup>r</sup> Wanton should *be set Insu-per*, for the same, that is as I take it he is looked upon as answerable for the making good the Articles of Charges in the Acco<sup>t</sup> when hereafter they shou<sup>d</sup> come to be narrowly inspected and examined, for at present they left all the accounts with me for

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<sup>1</sup> Not in the archives.<sup>2</sup> See the following document.<sup>3</sup> Not in the archives.

the Gov<sup>r</sup>. Justification and did not care to take the trouble to examine into them, only queried in what nature they were verified. So that probably hereafter they may be Scrutinized into in a Strict manner with Respect to the Vouchers by direction of Parliament, and the Gov<sup>r</sup>. to Acco<sup>t</sup> for what Articles may be disapproved or the Vouchers not to Satisfaction and therefore I humbly Submit it to consideration whether an Act of the General Assembly Should not be first passed to endemnify Gov<sup>r</sup>. Wanton before any more Bills be drawn on me on acco<sup>t</sup> of the above-said Money. I could not propose to have obtained the payment in any other manner and which I doubt not is Customary in Such Cases and beleive is the same circumstance attending Govern<sup>r</sup>. Clinton and Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirleys Bills — for such of them as have been paid.

I have a Demand on the same footing for about £5000 in behalf of New Jersey but as no Bills are drawn I find by what I can learn at present I must wait another Sessions of Parliament before I shall be able to get any part of it, neither do I suppose either the Connecticut or New Hampshire Agents will get any thing at all till then of the Canada Expedition money. This Affair has been attended as well the former with some Expence and my Acco<sup>t</sup> shall be sent hereafter.

As to the Cape Breton money altho' it be allowed us by Act of Parliament being £6332.12.10 yet there is no certainty what time it will be paid, they talk as if it is left pretty much with the Lords of the Treasury in what manner to make the Payments

and which I find is under their Considera<sup>n</sup>, and that it is intended to be paid in Such a manner as to oblige the several Colonys to call in and Cansel so much of their Paper Bills of Credit as the money or good part of it amounts to, but as yet they are come to no certainty about it. I have understood from the Sec<sup>ry</sup> that the delay is not occasioned for want of money in the Treasury but about the manner of paying it as aforesaid and that all the four Colonys are to fare alike in proportion to their respective Sums:—

I think your Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly woud do well to pass an Act impowring me to receive the Cape Breton Money and give a discharge therefor, as heretofore advised, least the Gov<sup>r</sup> Authority should not be sufficient, and it may come for ought I know in time for it

As for Publick News the Preliminarys for a Peace Stand as they did for a Cessation of Arms but the Spaniards are not yet committed unto to agree to them but what they may do is yet uncertain

I am Thy assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

I am apt to think the Connecticutt and New Hampshire Agents will Scarce receive a Shilling of the Canada Expedition money this Twelve month and I understand there is a Stand now put to the Payment of Gov<sup>r</sup> Clinton and Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirleys Bills on that head the reason of it I take to be their drawing on the Paymaster of the Forces instead of the Lords of the Treasury.

To The Governour and Company of the Colony  
of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.



PETITION OF RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO THE LORDS OF THE  
TREASURY.<sup>1</sup>*To the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury of Great  
Brittain &c*

The Humble Petition of Richard Partridge Agent  
for the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plan-  
tations in New England

Sheweth That the Governour and Company of the  
said Colony received the Duke of NewCastles Let-  
ter dated the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 1746. Signifying the Kings  
requiring that the Necessary dispositions should be  
Speedily made in the said Colony amongst his other  
Governments in North America for raising Forces  
for joyning his Regular Troops to be employ'd in  
the Reduction of Canada under the Command of  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> S<sup>t</sup> Clair and that the said Colony should  
appoint proper Officers to Command the Men they  
should be able to raise, and were directed to assure  
all that should engage in the Service as well Officers  
as Soldiers that they were immediatly to enter into  
his Majestys Pay. And as to the Article of Arms  
and Cloathing for the Men to be raised, his Majesty  
had Commanded that it should be recommended to  
the said Governour and Company and other Gov-  
ernours to take Care that the Soldiers be provided  
therewith, and that his Majesty had Authorised and  
empowred Lieu<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> S<sup>t</sup> Clair to make reasonable  
Allowance for defraying that Expence, and the said  
Governour and Company were orderd by the said

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with letter of June 1, 1748.

Letter to recommend to the Council and Assembly to provide a Sufficient number of Transports to carry the Troops to be raised in Rhode Island to Louisbourg the Place of Rendezvous, and from thence up the River S<sup>t</sup> Lawrence with Provisions for the Men.

That pursuant to the said Orders the Governour and Company being willing to give all possible Evidence of their Loyalty and Gratitude to the King and Zeal for his Service in so important an Expedition did appoint Officers, and Issued a Proclamation dated the 4<sup>th</sup> of June 1746. for encouraging Men to enlist in the said Service, and 3. Companies of one hundred Men each were accordingly raised fitted with Arms Cloathing and Ammunition and Supported by the said Colony for the said intended Expedition.

That in Octo<sup>r</sup> 1746. the said Colony received a Letter from Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley of New England and Commodore Warren signifying the Great danger that the Fortress of Annapolis Royal and the whole Province of Nova Scotia was in of falling into the Enemies hands unless Succours were immediatly sent, and that as the preservation of the Province is of the Utmost Consequence for his Majestys Interest &c<sup>a</sup> he would expect that at least the Troops in his own pay should be employed for the Defence of that Country, and therefore earnestly urged that without loss of time the Gov<sup>r</sup> of the said Colony of Rhode Island wou'd send in proper Vessells the 300 Men raised in the said Colony (for the Expedition against Canada) for the defence of Annapolis Royal and Nova Scotia, and further signified that the loss of Annapolis Royal woud make an Addition of 5. or

6000. fighting Men to the Strength of the Enemy and thereby enable them to make further attempts even upon Louisbourg.

That the said Governour of Rhode Island received from Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley of New England an Extract of a Letter wrote from the Duke of NewCastle to the said Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley dated May the 30<sup>th</sup> 1747 Signifying amongst other Matters that he was directed to Confer with Commodore Knowles about the Present State of Nova Scotia &c<sup>a</sup> and touching the Expence incurr'd on Account of the American Troops from the time of their being levyed to the time of their discharge &c<sup>a</sup> the acco<sup>ts</sup> being adjusted and Liquidated and to be transmitted from the Several Governours in ord<sup>r</sup> that they might be laid before the Parliament that Provision may be made for payment, and in the mean time in order to prevent any Complaint amongst the Men that have been enlisted for want of imediate pay, the said Governour Shirley and Commodore Knowles were directed to recommend it to the Govern<sup>rs</sup> of the Provinces where these levies should have been made to procure Credit from their respective Assemblies for that purpose which his Majesty hoped may be done without difficulty &c<sup>a</sup>

That the said Gov<sup>r</sup> of Rhode Island rec<sup>d</sup> from Admiral Warren in a Letter from Louisbourg of the 12<sup>th</sup> July 1745: a Letter or Copy of a Letter from the Duke of NewCastle dated Jan<sup>y</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> 1744 for the several Gov<sup>rs</sup> of the Northern Colonies, Signifying that if M<sup>r</sup> Warren should apply to them for Assistance either of Men Provisions or Shipping to enable him to proceed either to the Releif and Succour of

Annapolis Royal or making any attempts on the Enemy, they were in all Such Cases to be aiding and assisting to him in the most effectual Manner &c. of which Letters Copys are hereunto annexed extracted from Authenticated Copys transmitted to Your Petitioner under the said Gov<sup>r</sup> of Rhode Islands hand and the Seal of the Colony.

That when the said 3 Companys were raised in the said Colony they Equipped Manned and Victualled the Colonys Sloop of War for the same Service tho' She was the only armed Vessell they had to guard their Coast and protect their Trade, and in Order the more effectually to answer the Kings Intention in raising the Forces they granted a very large Bounty to Such as should enlist, and provide Transports, Provisions, Arms, Tents, Cloathing and other necessarys Seasonably, so that the Men were ready to embark at a very short warning with Provisions for their Subsistance near 12 Months, and in this State they continued till October, when at the pressing Instance of Govern<sup>r</sup> Shirley and Admiral Warren they were imbarked to go to the Relief of Annapolis Royal which was then in the utmost danger of falling into the hands of the Enemy and departed from Rhode Island the beginning of Nov<sup>r</sup> under Convoy of the Colonys said Sloop of War with all the Provisions &c<sup>a</sup> that were provided for the Canada Expedition, but had the Misfortune in Pursuance of the said Voyage to meet with Contrary Winds and exceeding bad Weather whereby two of the Transports were Stranded and lost, and at last after sending them another Transport and Several

Fruitless Attempts to proceed on their Voyage and Suffering greatly by Sickness and severity of the Weather they were obliged to return in a Sickly Condition without being able to get to Annapolis.

And after their Return as the Colony had no Orders from the King to disband them they were some of them furlough'd, and others Billited out till the Kings pleasure should be known and they continued till Governour Shirley and Comodore Knowles had orders to discharge them.

That the Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Said Colony hath transmitted to Your Petitioner the Muster Rolls together with the Acco<sup>ts</sup> of all the Particulars of the Expence in raising Supporting &c<sup>a</sup> of the said Forces and of the Charge of the Convoy and Transports aforesaid verified on Oath and certified under the said Gov<sup>r</sup>s hand and the Seal of the Colony ready to be produced amounting in the whole to £10144.9.6 Sterling for which Sum those Bills were drawn which have been presented you.

That the said Colony took up several Sums of Money of Merchants there on Credit to Supply part of the aforesaid Expence for which the said Governour hath already redrawn Bills on Your Petitioner which he cannot comply with until he is enabled by the Government here.

That your Petitioner is informed the said Colony (which is of but a Small extent) is involved in a great deal of Debt on acco<sup>t</sup> of the aforesaid Expences and are unable to discharge the same in due time without being repaid.

Wherefore Your Petitioner Humbly prays in be-

half of the said Colony that You would be pleased to take the Premises into Consideration and to grant an Order for the Payment of the said Gov<sup>r</sup> of Rhode Islands Bills of Exch<sup>a</sup> amounting together to the said Sum of £10144.9.6. Ster<sup>s</sup> to Your Petitioner agreeable to the Tenour thereof.

All which is humbly Submitted

R.<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

LONDON 4 mo; the 8<sup>th</sup> 1748



RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 6 mo. the 4<sup>th</sup> 1748.

*Gov<sup>r</sup>. Green,*

Altho' I have had no intimation by writing from the Colony of the Election there this Year yet have been informed that the Choice of their Governour has again fallen on thee and therefore I look on it my duty to address thee in my writing

My last to the Gov<sup>r</sup> and Company of Rhode Island was of the 17<sup>th</sup> 4 month last per 3 Conveyances concerning the Colonys Affairs whereto please to be refer'd.

Since that I have rec<sup>d</sup> Cash for one of Gov<sup>r</sup> Wantons Bills on acco<sup>t</sup> of the Canada Expedition as it became due viz. that of £3662.13.5. and out of it I have paid the four Bills he drew on me on the Colonys acco<sup>t</sup> viz. those of £166.0. £549.1.0. £514.6.0. £312.15.0. Sterl with some Interest due thereon: and the other Bill which the said Gov<sup>r</sup> sent me, I expect will be also paid when due.

As for the £6332.12.10. Sterl. our Cape Breton Expence Granted by Act of Parliament, and which was the full of our Demand for £36096.1.2. — Rhode Island Currency — it is to be paid by the Lords of the Treasury who have at several times been Solicited for payment of the money and particularly the 27 Ult. the Agents Attended and were called in to the Board and were with them upw<sup>d</sup> of an hour but no Resolution was come into about the Paym<sup>t</sup> the Lords being willing to get all the Information they could about the manner of paying the Money so as it may be most advantageous to the 4 Colonys in General, respecting the fatallity of the Great load of the Publick Bills of Credit at present circulating amongst them which they want to be Satisfied will be called in by degrees and Sunk with this money — but as the Agents insist upon the Payment of the money down the Lords are a good deal puzzled about it and are yet come to no certain Resolution although Several Schemes have been laid before them ;

Amongst other Matters it was intimated they supposed we had proper Authority to receive the Money, upon which I produced them my Power signed by Governour Green<sup>1</sup> which they read and made no objections to it at all so that I find it is Authentick enough for the Purpose. I beleive it will not be long before we shall know their Resolution how they will Act in the Affair.

In Obedience to the Vote of the House of Representatives<sup>2</sup> sent me by Gov<sup>r</sup> Wanton I now send

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 182.

<sup>2</sup> *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 226.

Copys of my acco<sup>ts</sup> from the beginning of my Agency down to the last Acco<sup>t</sup> Sent in 1746 which has been done with labour and some difficulty — and my Subsequent account must be deferrd to come hereafter.

As to Publick News the King remains still at Hanover and well, whose Return we expect in 8<sup>ber</sup> next.

it Seems to be the general Opinion of People that the Peace will be settled and Concluded now in a Short time,<sup>1</sup> for the rest I refer to the Prints now sent thee and remain with due respects to thy self and the Gentlemen of the Council.

Thy and their Assured Friend,

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

my acco<sup>ts</sup> abovesaid will come to the hands of And<sup>r</sup> Oliver Esq and Co: in Boston to be forwarded with the News Papers sent per this Conveyance

To WILLIAM GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governour of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 7<sup>ber</sup> the 24<sup>th</sup> 1748.

*Govern<sup>r</sup>. Green,*

My last to thee was of the 12<sup>th</sup> Inst.<sup>2</sup> and am yet without any of thy favours.

Agent Bollan for the Massachusets<sup>3</sup> has lately thrown in a Memorial to the Lords of the Treasury

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<sup>1</sup> The peace of England and Holland with France was signed October 18, 1748.

<sup>2</sup> Not in the archives.

<sup>3</sup> See note on p. 36. Bollan was made Advocate-general of Massachusetts after Shirley's promotion.



in order to procure payment of the Cape Breton money, which they have reder'd to the Attorney General together with his Power of Attorney for receiving it for the Attorney Genl to make his Report upon, with respect to the payment and also if his Authority is Sufficient, and at the same time a Petition from diverse New England Merchants<sup>1</sup> was presented to the Board representing (as I understood it) the bad State that Country is in by the heavy load of Bills of Currency circulating there desiring a Stop may be put to the payment of the money till that be regulated and Some Method effectuated for paying off and Sinking those Bills &c<sup>a</sup> which was received and read, but what the Lords of Treasury will do in Consequence of it is at present altogether uncertain.

As for our £6332.12.10. granted by the Parliament on the Same footing, I expect we must fare as all the rest do — which was hinted to me some time since by the Sec<sup>y</sup> to the Board and at the same time he intimated (when I urged the payment of the money) that if the New England People did not call in their Bills of Credit and Sink them with this money at the same rate as the Exch<sup>a</sup> was then viz: at about 1000 per C<sup>t</sup> it wou'd be the errantest Job that ever was.

I have been thinking therefore that if the Colony of Rhode Island woud pass an Act that so much of their Bills of Currency shoud be called in and

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<sup>1</sup> Meaning, merchants trading to New England. Felt says, "Merchants in London, who had commercial relations with ours, petition the Lords of the Treasury that the reimbursement for capturing Louisbourg may not be paid to New England until they establish the rate for redeeming their bills." *Historical Account of Massachusetts Currency*, p. 119.

destroyed<sup>1</sup> as this money amounted to at the rate of the Exch<sup>a</sup> above mentioned and send me over the Act duly Authenticated empowering me therein at the same time to receive the money of the Lords of the Treasury or of whom else it may concern and to give discharge for the same, least they should hesitate hereafter at my being empowered by the Gov<sup>r</sup> only, which indeed they have not objected to yet, I say if this were done I am apt to think I could obtain Payment of the money, and least this Method should not have the desired Effect, I would also propose that your Governm<sup>t</sup> should also pass an Act empowering the Gov<sup>r</sup> or some other proper persons to draw on the Lords of the Treasury for the said money in 2 Bills of Exch<sup>a</sup> one for £4000 and the other for the remainder payable to myself as their Agent and send me over the Act, and at the same time to write a letter of advice of it to the said Lords — and when I have them by me I can take the most Suitable Method, as I shall be advised, by one near that Board on whom I think I can depend — if this Course be pursued I dont See but it must be effectual, all which is humbly Submitted by

Thy assured Friend,

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

probably it will be objected that the Colony may make as much more of their Bills of Credit immediately after they have got the Money.

I should have told thee that Ten days ago the Lords of the Treasury proposed to the Agents by

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<sup>1</sup> The Assembly called in and destroyed £88,725 in bills of credit, amounting to about £8000 sterling. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 262, 263.

a Paper Signed by their Secretary West that we should have one third part of the money paid down (as granted by Parliament) for which we were to give Security in the Exchequer that it shall be duely applyed and to account for the Same hereafter, for that the Lords of the Treasury apprehend they cannot be justified in issuing, without such Security.

this we look upon to be unreasonable and what is not required by the Act and therefore shall not comply with it — and probably the said Lords will recede from their Proposal.

R. P.

definitive Treaty of Peace not yet Signed

To WILLIAM GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governour of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations



RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 9<sup>th</sup> the [24-30] 1748

*Governour Green*

In my last to thee of the 5<sup>th</sup> Inst. per Cap<sup>t</sup> Richards I advised thee that the Lords of the Treasury had referd the Affair of the Cape Breton money to the Kings Attorney and Sol<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> who were to consider it and make their Report, accordingly they sent for the four New England Agents as also notice was given to the New England Merchants who had Petitioned against the money being paid till some Regulation should be fixed respecting the Bills of Currency circulating there or to that Effect — and accordingly

the Agents with several of the Petitioners attended accordingly the 15<sup>th</sup> Inst. and after a pretty deal of Arguing upon the Subject Matter we withdrew and we must wait for the Result of the Attorney and Solicitor General which they are to Report to the Lords of the Treasury which I dont hear is yet done, but by what I observed it will be much of this Nature Viz<sup>t</sup> That the Lords of the Treasury shoud pay the respective Sums of Money granted by Parliam<sup>t</sup> into the Bank of England with the Consent of the several Agents, there to remain till their Constituants shoud send over a Satisfactory acco<sup>t</sup> to the Treasury respecting the Application and disposition of it,

But of this I cannot be certain off till we see their Report as aforesaid, Our Authoritys were also examined, whether the Powers we had for receiving the money were Authentick for that Purpose — and several of them were objected to, but as to mine they made no manner of hisitation about, but seemed to allow it to be good and Sufficient.

it is strongly Suggested and I believe intended that at the next Sessions of Parliam<sup>t</sup> endeavours will be used to have an Act passed to Regulate or prevent the Emitting of Paper Bills of Credit in the Plantations, be pleased therefore to let me have Instructions how to Act therein, in the mean time I shall exert my Endeavours to Vindicate the Rights and Priviledges of our Charter

xber 2<sup>d</sup>

Since writing the foregoing the Attorney and Sol<sup>r</sup> General have made their Report to the Lords of the Treasury a Copy whereof comes inclosed,<sup>1</sup> thou wilt

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<sup>1</sup> See following document.

See by it that they have represented our Case in the most favourable Light of any of the Agents but as yet I cannot say what the Lords of the Treasury will do about it till I apply again, in my next I expect to be able to give thee a further Account.

The King got Safe home the 22<sup>d</sup> Ult. and the Parliament met the 29<sup>th</sup> when the King made a Speech to them which I send thee with the News Papers to A.<sup>r</sup> Oliver of Boston. I am with due respects

Thy assured Friend.

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

TO WILLIAM GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governour of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations

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REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL.<sup>1</sup>

Copy of the Kings Attorney and Sol<sup>r</sup> Generals Report to the Lords of the Treasury on their Reference Concerning the Money granted the 4 N : E : Governm<sup>t</sup> by Parliam<sup>t</sup> viz<sup>t</sup>

*To the Right Honourable Lords Comm<sup>rs</sup> of his Majestys Treasury.*

*May it please your Lordships*

In pursuance of your Lordships desire signified to Us by M<sup>r</sup> West in his Letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup> last, Representing that your Lordships having had under Consideration the paym<sup>t</sup> of the several Sums granted by Parliam<sup>t</sup> last Session to reimburse the several Provinces and Colonies in North America the

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with letter of November [24-30], 1747.

Expences they have been at in taking and Securing Cape Breton to which Paym<sup>t</sup> your L<sup>d</sup> Ships were very desirous of giving all proper dispatch ; And that the Agents for the said Colonys, on the one hand having applyed for the immediate Payment of the said Sums, and produced Copy's of the Powers under which they Claim the Same ; And the Merchants Trading to New England having on the other hand, Offered Reasons in a Memorial against Such Paym<sup>t</sup> and that your Lordships not being well Satisfied that what the Agents call their Powers are Sufficient Authority's on which Such large Sums may legally be issued, as well by Reason of the dates of Some of them being Antecedent to the Grants, as because they do not Appear to be derived from legal Acts of the General Assemblies, Your LordShips were pleased to transmit the said Several Memorials and Powers to Us to take the same into Consideration together with the Votes of the House of Commons and Clause of Appropriation, And to desire our Opinion whether these Powers are such as do oblige or will in Law Sufficiently justify your LordShips to Issue the Sums without Acco<sup>t</sup>, to the Agents respectively ; Especially as the Agent of the Principal Province has refused to give Security for Answering the Trust in him reposed and Accounting in the Exchequer for the Same.

We have taken the said Several Papers into Consideration (all which are herewith return'd to your LordShips) and have been Attended by the respective Agents, and by some of the Petitioners in the Petition of the New England Merchants to whom

we thought it Proper to give Notice of this Reference.

As to the Powers to M<sup>r</sup> Bollan from the Massachusetts Bay, and to M<sup>r</sup> Palmer from Connecticut they are only Votes of Assembly ; But as they have no Letter of Attorney under the Seal of the Provinces who are Corporate Body's by Charter from the Crown and cannot regularly make Attorneys but under their Common Seal, We are of Opinion that those Gentlemen are not properly Authorized for that purpose. And tho' general Agents have been sometimes made by Votes of Assembly, and Such Agents have Acted on the foot of Such Authoritys, which have been Acquiesc'd yet in a Matter relating to the Revenue, and issuing large Sums of Publick money given by Act of Parliament, out of his Majestys Treasury We conceive nothing should be done but according to the Strict Rules of Law. Nor do we think that the giving Security, if offered, for due accounting for the Money Would be a Sufficient ground to dispence with those Rules in the present Case

With respect to M<sup>r</sup> Partridges Power from Rhode Island ; As he produced to Us an Authority under the Seal of the Province (a Copy of which was sent to Us from your Lordships) We are of Opinion Your Lordships may be well Justified in paying him the Sum Appropriated by the said Act to Rhode Island, upon his giving a proper Receipt, and leaving with your Lordships his said Power.

However as the Merchants of New England have by their Petition Represented the inconveniences

arising from the Paper Credit given in that Province as well as in the Massachusetts Bay, and desired the Payment of these Sums might wait, till it be seen, what Steps woud be taken there, to redress that Grievance ; M<sup>r</sup> Partridge acquainted Us, that he was willing the Money Appropriated to Rhode Island might be placed in the Bank till further Instructions from his Province.

As to New Hampshire, It appearing from an Extract of Cap<sup>t</sup> Thomlinsons Letter to M<sup>r</sup> West, which he likewise confirmed to Us, that he cannot produce at present either the Original or a Copy of his Power, and representing such Power as he has to be only a general Power of Agency not adapted to his Particular Purpose, We are of Opinion Your Lordships cannot be Justified in issuing to him the Money given to that Province, tho' from his Character and general Sense of the Merchants, We dont conceive any doubt of his being their general Agent.

All which is humbly Submitted to

Your Lordships great Judgment

D. RYDER

W. MURRAY

23<sup>d</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1748.



RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON Xber. 17th 1748.

*Governour Green*

Since I writ thee last which was of the 2<sup>d</sup><sup>1</sup> Inst. when I sent thee a Copy of the Kings Attorney and

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<sup>1</sup> See the preceding letter.



Sol<sup>r</sup> Generals Report to the Lords of the Treasury<sup>1</sup>  
I have exhibited my Memorial to the said Lords  
Soliciting for the Payment of the £6332.12.10. for our  
Expence Granted by Parliament towards the taking  
and Securing Cape Breton of which Memorial I  
herewith send thee a Copy<sup>2</sup> and have thereupon  
been called in before them urging what further  
occurr'd to me for the Payment, but the Chancellor  
of the Exchequer altho', he owned my being duly  
Authorized to receive it Agreeable to the Attorney  
and Solicitor Gen<sup>l</sup>s Opinion, yet intimated that the  
money was as Safe in the Exchequer as in the Bank  
of England and that probably something wou'd be  
moved in this Sessions of Parliament touching that  
Matter and that till then they had come to a Reso-  
lution to Suspend the payment — in Short accord-  
ing to my apprehension they seem determined to fix  
upon Something to regulate the Affair relating to  
Paper Currency in the Plantations before the money  
be paid.

Govern<sup>r</sup> Shirley hath lately writ to that Board con-  
cerning the Accounts of the Expence attending the  
Canada Expedition in the Several Governments in  
the Plantations and perticularly respecting Rhode  
Island and Connecticutt as if some part of the  
Charges was proper to be disallowed<sup>3</sup> but hath not  
sent over the accounts yet. The Lords took no

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<sup>1</sup> See the preceding letter.

<sup>2</sup> See the following document.

<sup>3</sup> See Shirley's letter to Wanton, November 24, 1747.

Notice to me hitherto of what he has writ, and  
whether they will or not is uncertain I am

Thy assured Friend

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

To WILLIAM GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governour and Commander in Chief of the  
Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plan-  
tations

New England



MEMORIAL OF RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO THE LORDS OF THE  
TREASURY.<sup>1</sup>

*To the Lords Comm<sup>rs</sup> of The Treasury*

The Memorial of Richard Partridge Agent for the  
Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
in New England Humbly Sheweth That Several  
Merchants and others Trading to New England had  
lately by their Memorial to your Board represented  
the inconveniences that the several Provinces of that  
Country laboured under on account of the large  
quantities of Paper Bills of Credit circulating there,  
praying that the money granted by Act of Parlia-  
ment for the taking and Securing to the Crown of  
Great Britain the Island of Cape Breton and its  
dependencies may not be issued until some Effectual  
Measures be taken there for establishing an equitable  
Rule for discharging their said Bills of Credit &c<sup>a</sup>  
and that you were pleased to referr the Considera-  
tion of their said Memorial to the Kings Attor<sup>ny</sup> and

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with letter of December 17, 1748.

Sol<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> together with the Several Powers or Authoritys of the respective Agents of the said Provinces for receiving the Summs granted us aforesaid for their Opinion thereupon.

That your Memorialist is informed that the said Attorney and Solicitor Gen<sup>l</sup> have made their Report upon your Order of Reference to them wherein they have Signified that they have taken the said Several Papers into Consideration and after having been attended by the Agents as well as by the Merch<sup>ts</sup> Petitioners in the Opposition, Reported respecting your Memorialist that the Money Appropriated by the said Act for the said Colony of Rhode Island may be safely paid him upon his giving a proper Receipt and leaving with you his Power. But that in Consideration of the Reasons therein alleged your Memorialist offered that the said Money Appropriated to Rhode Island might be placed in the Bank till further Instructions from the said Colony. That the Sum granted by the Appropriating Act is Six thous<sup>d</sup> three hundred and thirty two Pounds Twelve shill.<sup>s</sup> and 10 pence.

Wherefore your Memorialist Humbly prays that you would be pleased to give directions that the said Sum of £6332.12.10. may be placed in the Bank of England accordingly on Your Memoriallists giving a proper Receipt and leaving with you his Power of Attorney for receiving the same, and the said money there to remain till Your Memorialist shall receive further Instructions from his said Colony

All which is humbly Submitted

R. P.

LONDON. Dec<sup>r</sup> the 5<sup>th</sup> 1748.

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PETER BOURS AND OTHERS TO RICHARD PARTRIDGE.<sup>1</sup>

NEWPORT June 18<sup>th</sup> 1749.

*Sir,*

The Letters I have lately rec<sup>d</sup> from You with that directed to the Committee who disposed of the Sterling Money on your hands have been communicated to the General Assembly; who have ordered me to inform You that on examining the Accounts of your Agency, they find four hundred Pounds sterling charged November 21<sup>st</sup> 1744. as a Reserve in your Hands for future Services, for which they judge You ought to have given Credit, inasmuch as all the Expences from that Time to this which you have been at on the Colony's Behalf are charged in your several Accounts, the Article of Eighty two pounds Sterling charged as a Loss on the Bills of Exchange you drew payable to Mess<sup>rs</sup> Oliver and Phillips, the Assembly expect a further Explanation of the Equity and Reasonableness of before they can readily allow it, and as to the Article of Commissions for negotiating the Affair of the money advanced by this Government for the Canada Expedition, they have voted You two per Cent for receiving the same; as they have also an hundred Pounds Sterling as a Gratuity for your extraordinary Trouble respecting the Boundary Line between the Province of the Massachusetts Bay and this Colony, the Remainder of your Account seems to meet with Approbation.

You have herewith Sufficient Power to qualify you

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<sup>1</sup> See note of Assembly appointing the committee, and giving instructions as above. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 267. This and the two following documents are printed as one letter in the *Records*, V. 270.

in Behalf of the Government to receive the money we have advanced for paying the Officers and Soldiers rais'd for the Canada Expedition together with attested Copies of the muster Roles and the Oaths of the Committee who received the money from the Government to pay the Same, and doubt not as it was expended at the Request of the duke of Newcastle in Behalf of the Crown that we shall on your application be immediately reimbursed.

As to M<sup>r</sup> Lockman's Petition<sup>1</sup> relating [to] the naval office We doubt not but that the two Acts of Parliam<sup>t</sup> made in King Charles 2<sup>d</sup> and King William's Reigns relating to said Office will sufficiently vindicate the Colony's Conduct in rejecting his Patent, and as to his Aspersions so liberally cast on Us, was his Character as well known in London as it is in Rhode-Island he would not have Access to any publick Board to spread his false Reports which it is obvious are only the Result of his Disappointment.

PETER BOURS  
JOS : WHIPPLE JUN<sup>R</sup>  
THO CRANSTON

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GOVERNOR GREENE TO RICHARD PARTRIDGE.

[June 18, 1749.]

We are surprised at Governor Shirley's writing as You inform Us he has to the Lords of the Treasury,<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See vol I. pp. 227, 233, notes.

<sup>2</sup> See Partridge's letter of December 17, 1748.

You have been informed that the chiefest Part of the Charge of the Transports and Provisions in our Accounts was owing to the Attempt We made of succouring Nova Scotia at the pressing Instance of M<sup>r</sup> Shirley in Conjunction with Admiral Warren<sup>1</sup> and in Obedience to his Majesty's Instructions to this Colony anno 1745<sup>2</sup> Copies of which You have herewith to support those Articles, We are perswaded on strict Enquiry You will find that all the Expence the Province of the Massachusetts was at on the same Occasion and at that very Time has been by their Governor charged to the Crown and very likely paid to them before now, and as Admiral Warren was in Newport when our Forces Sailed for Anapolis and assured Us he would serve the Government whenever in his Power the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly have ordered me to address him for his friendly Assistance<sup>3</sup> in this Case and to desire him to declare before the Board who will enquire into these Charges in our Accounts, what he knows of the Conduct of the Colony relating to that Undertaking, inclosed is a Letter to him for that Purpose which You are to wait on him and to deliver your self if he be in London. And to inform him of the Difficulties We are under and to solicit his kind Interposition to serve Us as far as may be consistent with Justice which no Doubt he will readily do.

I am

Y<sup>r</sup> Friend and most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See letter in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 192.

<sup>2</sup> *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 132, 162.

<sup>3</sup> *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 268.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RICHARD PARTRIDGE.<sup>1</sup>

As to the Bill in Parliament relating to the Paper Currency, the Assembly expect You will Strenuously oppose it, since should it pass into a Law it would annihilate all the Legislative Power granted to this Colony in their Charter, and as we judge that we have not acted any Thing to forfeit those Priviledges We hope on an impartial Consideration we shall not be Stripped of them, the Multiplicity of the Paper Bills emitted by New-England ought to be considered as owing in a great Degree to the Expeditions the Inhabitants have ingaged in for his Majesty's Service, Witness the Undertaking in 1710. to reduce Port-Royal and Canada which first gave Occasion for Striking off Bills of Credit and Witness the remarkable Cape Breton Exploit which procured such an Inundation of them from the Province of the Massachusetts's Bay which has overwhelm'd that Province and the other Governments of New England. Also and we would observe that all the Money allowed us on Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Canada Expedition has been appropriated to the Sinking the whole Amount thereof in Bills emitted by this Colony as will also that which is granted us by Parliament for the Cape Breton Undertaking as soon as You shall have received it

June 16, 1749.

IN THE HOUSE OF MAG<sup>TS</sup> June 16, 1749.

*Gen.*

Resolv'd that a Letter be drawn agreeable to this in Substance and Signd by his Hon<sup>r</sup> the Gov<sup>r</sup> and

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with preceding letter [June 18].

Sent to the Agent and there with be Sent the Copy of the Entry of Burning the Money at the last Sessions of Assembly in Providence<sup>1</sup> and also the Act Impowering the Gov<sup>r</sup> to draw Bills for what is due to the Colony for what the Colony paid to the Soldiers raisd for the Canada Expedition<sup>2</sup>

Voted and past

per ord<sup>r</sup> J LYNDON Cler

Read and Concurred w<sup>th</sup> per ord<sup>r</sup> THOS WARD  
Secretary.

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SECRETARY WILLARD TO THOMAS WARD.<sup>3</sup>

BOSTON December 18<sup>th</sup> 1749.

*Sir.*

Your Letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> September came to my Hands soon after the Date, together with the Petition of James Mussey and the Order of your Governm<sup>t</sup> upon it.<sup>4</sup> You ask me to lay the Papers before the General Court of this Province, which then stood prorogued to the 22<sup>d</sup> Day of November, and your Assembly having appointed so short a Day as the 9<sup>th</sup> of October for the Commissioners of both Governments to meet together to run the Line, it was not possible there should be a Compliance on the Part of this Government. I forgot to lay your Letter before the Court at the beginning of the Sessions, nor had I ever communicated the Contents of it to any of the Members, otherwise you would have receiv'd

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<sup>1</sup> *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 262.

<sup>3</sup> Secretary for Rhode Island.

<sup>2</sup> *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 269.

<sup>4</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 274.



an Answer before this Time; It was meer forgetfulness that caus'd this neglect, And I hope it will the more readily be excus'd, as the Day propos'd by you for running the Line had been pass'd Six Weeks before the General Court of this Province could meet: As soon as I laid your Letter before the Court, viz<sup>t</sup> on the 14<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> they appointed a Committee to consider what was proper to be done, and the next Day the Committee reported, That it was their Opinion your Proposal should be complied with, so far as in the Nature of it is practicable, which Report has been accepted; And I am now directed to inform you that the General Court are always disposed to do every Thing in their Power to preserve and establish a good Harmony with the Neighbouring Governments, and look upon all Agreements made with them for the Settlement of their Boundaries to be sacred and inviolable, and as often as shall be convenient are willing to renew and re-establish all Stations or Marks to prevent any uncertainty or Doubt concerning the same; and had they known your proposal a sufficient Time before the Day appointed by you for running the Line, they would have appointed Commissioners to join with yours; And now they have done all that is possible for them to do, and have appointed John Chandler Joseph Dwight and John Otis Esq<sup>r</sup> with full Power to Join with the Commissioners already appointed, or such others as may hereafter be appointed by the Government of Rhode Island with full Power to run and renew the Southern Boundary Line according to the Settlement of said Line by both Governments made

and agreed to the 19<sup>th</sup> January 17 <sup>$\frac{10}{11}$</sup>  the first Meeting of said Commissioners to be at the House of \_\_\_\_\_ in Wrentham on the \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_ next with Power to agree upon any other Time or Place for any future Meetings, if they shall be found necessary. And I am to desire your Answer thereto accordingly.<sup>1</sup>

I am Sir

Your very humble Servant

J. WILLARD. Secry

P S. The Commissioners for this Governm<sup>t</sup> above-mentioned being just now appointed, have had no Oportunity of determining upon the Time and Place of Meeting; of which I shall inform you by the first Conveyance.

To THOMAS WARD Esq

Secretary of the Colony of Rhode Island

At Newport.

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO THE GOVERNOR OF RHODE ISLAND.

LONDON 1<sup>st</sup> month or March 17<sup>th</sup> 1748

*To the Gov<sup>r</sup>. and Comp<sup>rs</sup>. of Rhode Island &c<sup>a</sup>.*

I wrote my last to Gov<sup>r</sup> Green of the 16<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> whereto I refer: Since which the Board of Trade have made their Report to the Lords of the Treasury on the Several Colony Acco<sup>ts</sup> of Expence, on the designed Canada Expedition which being liqui-

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R.. I*, V. 281. The Rhode Island commissioners had already been over the line, but voted, in February, 1750, that commissioners appointed by the governor should run the line in company with the Massachusetts commissioners.

dated and adjusted, have carried the respective Total Sums into Parliam<sup>t</sup> whereof I have obtained an abstracted Copy of the whole which comes inclosed, but of New Jersey Rhode Island<sup>1</sup> and Connecticut, I have got a more perticular Acco<sup>t</sup> as appears therein: wherein I find they were bent on Saving to the Crown by making large abatements, notwithstanding the just and Reasonable Arguments urged in my Reply to Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirleys Observations, so that you will see the Total Sum adjudged to Rhode Island for the whole Expence of Arming, Cloath<sup>s</sup> Pay and all amounts to no more than £7507:4:3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> which is £2637:5:2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> less than I have rec<sup>d</sup>; which last Sum I expect will be deducted out of the £6332.12.10 Cape Briton Money when they are pleased to make Payment,<sup>2</sup> which I think is very Arbitrary, but I know of no Remedy but Patience; the other Colonies have Suffered also very largely perticularly in the Connecticutt Acco<sup>ts</sup> they have cutt off one half of the Pay of the Officers and Soldiers for the last 12 months and of their Acco<sup>ts</sup> for Arming and Cloathing abo<sup>t</sup> £1831 Str<sup>s</sup> out of £6796.13.4 and the Sum of £8825.6.6. Str<sup>s</sup> for Transports, Billetting and Bounty is all disallowed save about £80 Str<sup>s</sup> for a few Particular Articles therein, and as to what Sums are adjust<sup>d</sup> and brought in, it's expected the House will Soon agree to pretty quickly, but when the Money will be paid is something uncertain: nothing done this Sessions of Parliament relating to Paper Currency and as to the Iron Bill depend<sup>s</sup> in the House

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<sup>1</sup> The Rhode Island account is enclosed.

<sup>2</sup> This was done. See letter of August 10, and the enclosed correspondence between Partridge and the Lords of Trade.

of Commons,<sup>1</sup> I am now apt to think there will be hardly time for its passing there is such Strong Opposition to it from Several Countys in this Kingdom: and the Parliam<sup>t</sup> to rise, (as they Say) pretty Soon.

I am Thy assured Fr<sup>d</sup>

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

Since the foregoing the Iron Bill seems likely to pass.

To The Governour and Company of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

*Account of Charges in the Intended Canada Expedition.<sup>2</sup>*

*Rhode Island*

To the Charge of 3 Companys consisting of 100 Men each raised in this Colony for the intended Exped<sup>n</sup> against Canada from the day of each Officers entering into the Service or private Soldiers Enlistm<sup>t</sup> commencing in June 1746. to the day of the discharge of the s<sup>d</sup> 3 Companys on the

31. of Octo<sup>r</sup> 1747      -      -      -      -      -      4081 . 9 . 3

To cloathing of the said Three Companys      -      -      974 . 2 . 8

To Arms and Amunition for the Said 3 Compa<sup>s</sup>      -      340 . 14 . 5½

To Provisions for the S<sup>d</sup> 3 Companys when they embarked for Nova Scotia      -      -      -      -      684 . 6 . ¼

To the hire of Transpo<sup>t</sup> taken up to carry the S<sup>d</sup> Detachm<sup>t</sup> to Nova Scotia and for sund<sup>r</sup> Disburstm<sup>t</sup> thereon      -      -      -      -      -      1339 . 18 . 7

To the Wages of a Doctor for the said 3 Companys      86 . 13 . 4

Total paid      £7507 . 4 . 3½

as per the L<sup>d</sup>s of Trades Report: Over paid      2637 . 5 . 2½

<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 313, 314. The Act of 1750 for encouraging the importation of pig and bar iron from America prohibited the erection in the colonies of any slitting or rolling mills, plating forges, or steel furnaces. It practically interdicted all production of iron save the raw material, which the London market was unable to absorb. Bishop, *History of American Manufactures*, I. 491.

<sup>2</sup> Enclosed in letter of March 17, 1748.

Endorsed: Acco<sup>t</sup> of the Sums of the Sev<sup>l</sup> Colonies Expence incurrd in the intend<sup>d</sup> Expedition ag<sup>st</sup> Canada w<sup>ch</sup> were carr<sup>d</sup> into Parliam<sup>t</sup> Obtained from the H<sup>o</sup> Com<sup>s</sup>

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO THE GOVERNOR OF RHODE ISLAND.

LONDON 3d month or May 12<sup>th</sup> 1750.

*To the Gov<sup>r</sup>. and Company of the Colony of Rhode Island*

My last to the Govern<sup>r</sup> was of the 17th 1st month;<sup>1</sup> Since which I have rec<sup>d</sup> none from Gov<sup>r</sup> Greene. As to what is due to the Colony on the Ballance of the Cape Breton money I have not been able to get hitherto, tho' frequently Solicited for it, neither is it certain when it will be paid — but yet I have accepted his Bills lately drawn on me which have been presented as I wrote him in my last, some whereof being due are paid, only one of £202. to Darius Sessions which I offered to accept at 3 months and pay the Interest for the time. I dont know but it will be complied with. I have also accepted one some time since of £200. Payable as I think to Jos: Lee which had not been return'd.

The Parliament was prorogued the 12<sup>th</sup> Ult. and about 4 days after that, the King set out for Hanover where he is safe arrived leaving the Affairs of the Kingdom to the Lords Justices as usual, his Speech thou wilt find in the Magazine herewith sent. The acts passed this Sessions relating to the Planta-

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<sup>1</sup> See the preceding letter.

tions are the Iron Act<sup>1</sup> and one for Encouraging the Growth and Culture of Raw Silck<sup>2</sup> — the former of which I also send — and nothing done as to Paper Currency.

The Ministry continues without much alteration, only it is said for Certain that the Duke of Dorset who is at present President of the Council will about Sept<sup>r</sup> next be appointed Lord Lieut<sup>t</sup> of Ireland and Some think the Duke of Bedford will be President in his Room and Lord Sandwich Sec<sup>y</sup> of State: for further News I refer to the Prints, and remain Thy Friend

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

I have sent a Packet for thee with prints to And<sup>r</sup> Oliver & Co. to be forwarded to thee per a private hand

To The Governour and Company of the Colony of  
Rhode Island Providence Plantations

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THE LORDS OF TRADE TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY  
OF RHODE ISLAND.

WHITEHALL, July 19<sup>th</sup> 1750.

*Gentlemen,*

It being in general necessary for His Majesty's Service and for the Benefit of the Plantations, that

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<sup>1</sup> See note to preceding letter; also a letter of the Duke of Bedford and one of Thomas Hill, secretary to the Lords of Trade, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 314.

<sup>2</sup> A bill was passed in the sessions of 1750 for the encouragement of silk culture in South Carolina and Georgia, by admitting the colonial product into England duty free.

the Limits or Boundaries of the British Colonies on the Continent of America should be distinctly known, more particularly so far as they border on the Settlements made by the French or any foreign nation in America, We desire you to send Us with all possible dispatch the best account you can, of the Boundaries of His Majesty's Colony of Rhode Island under your Government, together with a Chart or Map thereof, all the best Accounts and Vouchers you can obtain to support the same, and more particularly with relation to any Settlements that may have been made by the English on the Frontiers towards the Lakes and Mountains. We at the same time recommend to you to inform Us whether the Subjects of any foreign Prince have made any and what Encroachments on the Colony of Rhode Island under your Government, and at what Period: Nor can you be too exact in stating every particular in the History of whatever Encroachments have been made, which may serve to place the Proceedings in a true light, and confute any Right which may at any time be founded upon them. So We bid you heartily farewell, and are

Your very loving Friends and humble Servants,

DUNK HALIFAX

J. GRENVILLE

CHARLES TOWNSHEND

Governor and Company of Rhode Island.

RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 6 month or Aug<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> : 1750

*Gov. Greene*

My last to thee was of the 9<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> mo: to which I refer having not Since received any of thy favours, This comes now to acquaint thee that I have at length received the Cape Breton money from the Treasury out of which they stopt what they apprehended had been over paid in the Canada Expedition money<sup>1</sup> agreeable to the Board of Trades Report as I heretofore wrote thee, notwithstanding the Remonstrances Exhibited: a Copy of which Report<sup>2</sup> at full length I have obtained and send thee herewith which Report the Lords of the Treasury would not deviate from being bent as it should Seem on Savings to the Crown how reasonable so ever our Representations<sup>3</sup> may have been for which there was no remedy and which was the Case of other Colonys also — and having paid thy Bills on me I herewith also send my acco<sup>t</sup> the Ballance due to the Colony being        in which acco<sup>t</sup> I have charged £300: as thou wilt see for my Extraordinary Trouble in the Boundary Affair<sup>4</sup> for what the Gov<sup>r</sup> then for the time being gave me Expectation I should be considered in, which I hope the Colony will Judge but reasonable considering the abundance of Trouble I had in it and with what faithfulness I exerted my self.

Inclosed I have remitted thee my Bill of £200:

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<sup>1</sup> See letter of March 17, 1750.

<sup>3</sup> See the three following documents.

<sup>2</sup> Not in the archives.

<sup>4</sup> See letter of June 18, 1749.



Sterl: on Jos : Wanton and of £85 on Walter Chal-  
loner which I doubt not will be complied with, and  
are charged in my acco<sup>t</sup>

To WILLIAM GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governour of Rhode Island and Providence  
Plantations.

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO THE LORDS OF TRADE.<sup>1</sup>

*To the Lords Comss<sup>r</sup>: for Trade and Plantations.*

The humble Representation of Richard Partridge  
Agent for the Colony of Rhode Island and Provi-  
dence Plantations

In Reply to the Objections of Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley to the  
Said Colonys Acco<sup>t</sup> of the Expence occur'd in their  
raising, Subsisting, Arming and Cloathing 300 Men  
for the intended Expedition against Canada, and  
after the said Expedition was laid aside, for hire  
&c<sup>a</sup> of Transports for carrying them to Annapolis  
Royal and for the Charge of their Sloop of war for  
convoying the Same &c<sup>a</sup>

Obj<sup>n</sup> to the 1<sup>st</sup> Article; That the Charge  
of £1644.5.10<sup>2</sup> is irregular &c<sup>a</sup> and altho'  
charged to the Crown, the people are  
taxed for it and ought to be disallowed. £1644.5.10

Obj<sup>n</sup> to the 2<sup>d</sup> Article; That of the  
£5484 no more than £2555.8.4 ought to  
be allowed, because the remainder was

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with letter of August 10, 1750.

<sup>2</sup> Colonial currency.

for beds, Tents, Blankets &c<sup>a</sup> and is part of those Expences for which the people were taxed, and therefore the said Governor proposes to abate.

2928.11. 8

The 3<sup>d</sup> Article is allowed.

Obj<sup>n</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup> That of £13722.2.8. for Transports for carrying the Forces to Louisbourg and Quebeck in Canada, and afterwards when that design was over were employed about carrying them to Annapolis Royal, so much as this fourth Article as arrises upon the Acco<sup>t</sup> of the Canada Expedition. viz<sup>t</sup> £5066.14.6 he proposes should be disallowed as an overcharge in the hire of the said Transports, for that says the Governor it was expressly recommended by his Majesty to be provided at the Expence of those Govern<sup>ts</sup> &c<sup>a</sup> and therefore would have abated the said Sum of

5066.14. 6

Obj<sup>n</sup>. 5<sup>th</sup> That the Expence of the Tarter Sloop of War that Convoyed the said Transports on their Voyage, is a groundless charge and to be wholly disallowed in as much as it was a Standing Expence to them in Time of War, and which they wou'd have been at, if there had been no Expedition; and for that also Armed Vessels were recommended by his Majesty to be provided at the Expence of the Colony, and that there was no occasion for a Convoy &c<sup>a</sup>

12674.13. 6

Obj<sup>n</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> That out of £2184.1.3 for Expences at Marthas Vineyard its propos'd to be abated £1000 as being Charged without just Foundation 1000.

Obj<sup>n</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> That of £2169.16.5 Charged for Physicians, Surgeons and Medicines for the Sick Soldiers, and necessary funeral Charges; because great part ought to have been provided for by Stoppages from the mens pay, as was done by Levys in the Massachusetts Bay: and recommended by Govern<sup>r</sup> Shirley and therefore proposed to abate out of this Article 1485. 6. 5

Obj<sup>n</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> The Article for Cloathing allowed

“ 9<sup>th</sup> for Additional Cloathing allowed

“ 10<sup>th</sup> That this Article for Billetting the 3 Companys was recommended by his Majesty to be provided (Says the Governor) at the Expence of the Colony and Complied with by them, and that it appears to be done by the Act of Assembly: so the Government of Rhode Island ought not to be allowed for it 8984. 8. 11

11<sup>th</sup> That this Article Charged likewise for Billetting of Soldiers to be disallowed for the same Reason 2091.16. 7

Which sum of £35875.17.5 Currency at 750 per C<sup>t</sup> amo<sup>t</sup> to Ster<sup>s</sup> £4783.9.0.

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£35875.17. 5

N. B. The Sum of £1063.6.8. } Sterl<sup>s</sup> advanced  
and 392.7 } in part of pay,  
not taken notice of in the Adjustment.

To which Objections the said Agent replies,

As to the 1<sup>st</sup> — That they are represented as part of those Expences for which the people of the Colony are taxed, — he humbly conceives they are no otherwise taxed than by Emitting paper Bills of Credit, which were to be Called in, paid off, and destroy'd by the said Colony at Certain Periods of Time; but before the Expiration thereof they well hoped to be repaid their Said Expenses by the Crown, with which they would answer that purpose, and which indeed they have already begun to do by an Act passed in the month of Octob<sup>r</sup> 1748.<sup>1</sup> out of the money already paid by the Lords of the Treasury: a Copy of which Act is hereunto annexed and consequently the Tax does not fall on the people.

5<sup>th</sup> — To the abatements in the 5<sup>th</sup> Article relating to the Expences charged for their Tartar Sloop of War the Convoy to the Transports —

It is humbly hoped, that will not be judged to have been an unnecessary Expence, in a time of War, but that it would have been looked upon unsafe and imprudent for the Colony to have ventured the sending away of the Transports without Convoy; That the General Assembly of the said Colony did by their Vote and Resolve on the 24<sup>th</sup> of Octo<sup>r</sup> 1746.<sup>2</sup> order that an express should be sent to Admiral

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 262, where the act is referred to as having been passed in October, 1748, although no record of it is printed under that session's record.

<sup>2</sup> *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 193.

Warren and Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley, to know what Convoy was to proceed with the said Forces, and ordered their Sloop of War, and Transports to Joyn them; That Admiral Warren happened to be afterwards at Rhode Island when they sailed and its presumed actually agreed and approved of the said Sloop Tartar going as Convoy, she being doubtless fitted out with more Expence for that Voyage than otherwise wou'd have been, and as this was their only Warlike Vessel to protect their Trade, their own Coast was left unguarded, and their Trade by Sea in the mean time exposed to the Enemy, the said Colony were actually at the Expence charged in their Acco<sup>ts</sup> for the Same and which is Sworn to by the Commissary.

And the said Agent humbly hopes that the said Article will not be disallowed more Especially for that the Undertaking for Succouring Nova Scotia was at the pressing Instances of Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley in Conjunction with Admiral Warren, with the latter of whom the Gov<sup>r</sup> of said Colony was to advise in that respect upon all occasions that might arise, as appears by the order of 3<sup>d</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1744<sup>1</sup> which the said Gov<sup>r</sup> rec<sup>d</sup> from the Secre<sup>ty</sup> of State by the Kings Command; and for that also that the said Gov<sup>r</sup> rec<sup>d</sup> a letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> Octo<sup>r</sup> 1746<sup>2</sup> from said Admiral Warren and Governor Shirley, intimating the great Danger that the Fortress of Annapolis Royal and the whole Province of Nova Scotia was in, unless Succours were imeadately sent to them, and that the Preservation of the said Province was of the utmost Consequence for his Majestys Interest &c<sup>a</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 132.

<sup>2</sup> *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 192.

and therefore most earnestly urges the Sending forward the 300 Rhode Island Forces without loss of time. Which the said Colony in Obedience to the Kings Command and the Order rec<sup>d</sup> from Admiral Warren and Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley as aforesaid readily Complied with accordingly.

To the 6<sup>th</sup> Article out of £2184.1.3 Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley proposes an abatem<sup>t</sup> of £1000, without Giving any other reason for it, than that so much was charged therein ; without just foundation, without pointing out which of the Particulars are wrong charged : it is impossible to answer an objection in such General Terms, and therefore it is hoped will have less weight in the Consideration of it.

To the 7<sup>th</sup> Article the said Agent apprehends that the Expence was absolutely needfull as the greatest part of it was for the preservation of the Mens lives, with other necessary charges and its Suprizing that such a provision should be objected to, when the money was doubtless all justly expended and paid as Sworn to by the Commissary.

There was all possible care taken in this Article (as the Governor of the said Colony writes) but the Expence was unavoidable, as these Forces were not Regimented, and So no Chiurgeon upon the Kings Establishment, and Sickness rageing very much amongst them ; they at first made use of Doctors occasionally but finding that very Chargable were obliged to Contract with one by the Month, who Continued a whole Year in the Service : the Govern<sup>t</sup> finding all medicines which are excessive dear in that Country.

To the 4<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Articles which are principally for Billetting, Maintain<sup>g</sup> and Supporting the said 300 Men, raised by the said Colony and for the hire of Transports for the Expedition against Canada.

The said Agent replies, That the said Forces were raised pursuant to the Royal Instructions of the thing Signified to the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Rhode Island, by Letter from the Secr<sup>y</sup> of State dated 9<sup>th</sup> Ap<sup>l</sup> 1746<sup>1</sup> who were thereby directed to Raise as many men as the Shortness of the time wou'd permit; who were to enter imeadately into the Kings pay, and to provide proper Transports for Carrying the said Forces to the place of Rendezvous and provisions for their Subsistance, and to furnish them with Arms, Cloathing and other necessarys for the said Expedition, and to provide as many Armed Vessels as could be got to be employed therein.

And as the said Agent has been informed the said Colony has always distinguished it Self by its Loyalty to the Crown and Zeal for its Service, so in this Affair as Soon as they had received the said Royal Instructions, they imeadately passed an Act the 2<sup>d</sup> June 1746.<sup>2</sup> for raising 3 Companies of Soldiers of 100 Men each Officers included; and also for equipping, manning, and Victualling the Colonys Sloop of War for the Same Service, and in order the more effectually to answer the Kings Instructions in raising those Forces, they granted a large Bounty of £50 for each able bodyed Man that should enter himself, which bounty was intirely born by the Colony and not charged in the Acco<sup>ts</sup> (as indeed they

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<sup>1</sup> In *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 162.

<sup>2</sup> *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 172.

did not expect to be paid for it) But as the forces raised for that Service, were by the Kings express orders and directions to enter immediately into his pay as aforesaid, it seems to be naturally and Necessarily Implied, that he would pay all the Charge arising upon the Subsisting and Transporting his own Troops.

When Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley and Adm<sup>l</sup> Warren rec<sup>d</sup> Directions to discharge the Soldiers, they also had Instructions to procure the Acco<sup>ts</sup> from the Several Govern<sup>rs</sup> of the whole Expence incurr'd on Acco<sup>t</sup> of the American Troops, from the time of their being Levyed, to the time of their discharge: and after their being all adjusted and liquidated to transmitt them to the Secret<sup>y</sup> of State, with the proper Vouchers, to be laid before the Parliam<sup>t</sup> that Provision might be made for the payment,<sup>1</sup> which the said Governor of Rhode Island apprehended to be a demonstration that it was the Kings Intentions that the whole Expence should be paid: If there be any imperfections in the Accounts they may possibly arise in a great measure from their not being acquainted with the Manner of Levying Soldiers and Stateing Military Acco<sup>ts</sup> in England, and so were forced to take Methods of their own Prescribing, but they hoped that their Zeal for the Kings Service in this Affair will Attone for Some irregularitys in the Method of proceeding and Stateing their Accounts.

That Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley must be under a mistake in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Objections when he alledges, That

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 229.



Armed Vessels and Billeting the 3 Companys was recommend to be provided at the Expence of the Colonys, for that the words of the Duke of Newcastle's Letter to the said Govern<sup>r</sup> of Rhode Island of 9<sup>th</sup> April 1746 are Viz<sup>t</sup> " You are to recommend it " to the Council and General Assembly, to provide " a Sufficient Number of Transports to Carry the " Troops to be raised in Rhode Island to Louisbourg, " and from thence up the River S<sup>t</sup> Lawrence and a " Sufficient Quantity of Provisions for their Subsist- " ance and also to provide as many armed Vessels as " can be got to Serve in the Expedition, under the " Command of Rear Adm<sup>l</sup> Warren;"<sup>1</sup> Wherein not one word is mentioned that this Charge was to be at the Colonys Expence and therefore the said Colony had just reason to Expect a Reimbursment in due time of the said Expence, as well as to be paid for Army and Cloathing by Lieu<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> S<sup>t</sup> Clair; more especially now Since the Expedition was laid aside, for can it be rationally imagined that this Small Colony should of themselves bear that heavy burden without a Consideration for it? If the Expedition had gone forward as was intended when Orders were sent over to the Colonys there was a probability of Success in the Designe against Quebeck which being taken and in the hands of the English, would have been some compensation to Rhode Island, for thereby the Indian Natives in the Interest of the French and always our Enemys in a French War would have been deprived of Succour and Assistance with Arms and Ammunition, and

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 162.

consequently prevented in a great Measure from annoying and disturbing the Frontier Towns, which has been frequently done, and the Inhabitants put in great Fear and Terror: But in as much as the said Colony did very early Comply with the Instructions from the Crown and were by no means faulty therein nor accessory to the disapointment of the said Expedition, but that it was laid aside entirely by the Government here, as appears by a Letter wrote by Governor Shirley and Commod<sup>re</sup> Knowles of the 28<sup>th</sup> Octob<sup>r</sup> 1747. to the Governor of New Jersey in these words, Viz: " His Grace the D. of Newcastle " having in his Letter to Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley signified, that " his Majesty finding it necessary to employ the " greatest part of his Forces to assist his Allies and " defend the libertys of Europe, had thought proper, " for the Present, to lay aside the prosecution of the " intended Expedition against Canada &c<sup>a</sup>."

It is therefore humbly prayed and for the Reasons afores<sup>d</sup> that the Objections of Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirleys to the Acco<sup>ts</sup> of the s<sup>d</sup> Colony of Rhode Island, may be set aside, or at least so much of them as you in your wisdom Shall See meet.

all which is humbly Submitted.

R. P.

LONDON 9<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1749

N. B The Total amount of the said Colonys Expence on this occasion was £76083.11.4 Currency of the Old Tenour, which at 750 per C<sup>t</sup> as per Exca in 1746 made £10144.9.6 Sterl: and the same has been paid by the Lords of the Treasury to the said Agent accordingly.

*To the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations.<sup>1</sup>*

The further Representation of the Colony of Rhode Islands Agent in addition to his former of the 14<sup>th</sup> of Novemb<sup>r</sup> relating to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Articles of Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirleys against the said Colonys account: Viz<sup>t</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> That by the 5<sup>th</sup> Article the Sum of £12674.13.6 Currency the said Governor says ought to be wholly disallowed for the Reasons set forth in his Objections.

In Reply to which, the said Agent further Alledges, that the Colony Sloop of War by Virtue of an Act Passed there, had been employed during the time of War, to Cruise in Conjunction with the Connecticut Sloop in the Summer Season, for the safe guard of their Coast; but that afterwards when order came for the Canada Expedition, it was by the General Assembly of the said Colony of the 12<sup>th</sup> of June 1746: voted and resolved, that the said Act, should be repealed,<sup>2</sup> which was done accordingly, and the said Sloop of War kept in Constant readiness in the Harbour at home, waiting Soley to Convoy the Transports on the said Expedition; and afterwards when Orders came for Transporting the Colonys Forces to Annapolis Royal, they embarked and Sailed the 2<sup>d</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> and Continued great part of the Winter before their Return: That the Custom of the Colonys employing their Sloop of War ordinarily for guarding their Coast, was only in the Summer, and to discharge their Men and lay up all the Winter and then fit out again in the Spring but here she was actually employed in the Kings Service both in Summer and Winter as aforesaid.

9<sup>th</sup> And as to the said Gov<sup>r</sup>s Remarks on the 9th Article relating to additional Cloathing.

The said Agent Reply's, the Governor of Rhode Island wrote him, that when the Forces were ordered to Embark for Annapolis Royal, As they had been Several Months in the Service without pay, and their Cloathing being not Sufficient for them to go into Garrison in the Winter Season; the Government thought it absolutely necessary tho' they had no orders from the King to ad-

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with letter of August 10, 1750.

<sup>2</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 176.

vance them some part of their pay, and to furnish them with some more Cloaths on his Majestys account.<sup>1</sup>

Which is humbly Submitted

R<sup>D</sup> PARTRIDGE

LONDON December 16<sup>th</sup> 1749.

*Treasury Receipt.<sup>2</sup>*

Whereas by his Majestys Letters of Privy Seal bearing date the 7<sup>th</sup> day of June 1750: it is recited that the Expences in Rhode Island for the intended Canada Expedition did amount to £7507.4.3½ and the Money advanced to Gideon Wanton late Governour there, for those Services did amount to £10144.9.6. So that there is to be repaid by him the Sum of £2637.5.2½ upon repayment whereof to the PayMaster of the Forces, his Majesty thereby directs the said Gideon Wanton shall be discharged from any further acco<sup>t</sup> for the said £10144.9.6;

And Whereas by a Warrant Signed by the Lords Justices the 28<sup>th</sup> of June 1750: the Lords of the Treasury are required to take care that the said Sum of £2637.5.2½ be repaid by Richard Partridge as Agent for Rhode Island accordingly, and that proper Memorandums be made thereof with the Auditor of the Imprests. Now I do hereby Accknowledge to have rec<sup>d</sup> of the said Rich<sup>d</sup> Partridge the said Sum of Two thousand Six hundred Thirty seven Pounds, five Shillings and two Pence halfpenny which I promise to repay in the Name of the said Gideon Wanton to the PayMaster General of his Majestys Forces and make proper Memorandums thereof in the Office of the Auditor of his Majestys Imprests according to the Orders of the Lords Comm<sup>rs</sup> of his Majestys Treasury in that behalf

PETER LEHEUP

WHITEHALL TREASURY CHAMBERS  
the 6<sup>th</sup> day of July 1750.

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<sup>1</sup> Rhode Island was eventually allowed but £7,507.4.4 for the expenses of the expedition to Annapolis Royal. The over-payment of £2,637.5.2 was deducted from the allowance of £6,322.12.10, for the expenses of the Cape Breton affair.

<sup>2</sup> Enclosed with letter of August 10, 1750.

GOVERNOR GREENE TO THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES.<sup>1</sup>

*To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> House of Deputies.*

*Gentlemen,*

The Currency of a Government is a Matter of very great Importance and of general Concern, every Member of the Community being interested therein, and as it is the Measure by which the Prices of all Things bought and sold are estimated, it most certainly ought to be of a fixed and invariable Value, for if it is not, it must necessarily occasion great Injury and Injustice.

That the Paper Currency of this and the neighbouring Governments is not an invariable Measure is indisputable, and that it has sunk above one half in its Value, within the Compass of a few Years last past, is a Fact that cannot be denied, consequently it doth not answer the true End of a Medium of Commerce, and all Creditors in New England have been greatly injured thereby.

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<sup>1</sup> On August 24 (the date of this message) the Lower House passed a resolution to draught a law to emit £50,000 in bills of credit. This was done, but the law never was passed. See Rider's *Historical Tract No. 8*, on Colonial Paper Currency, pages 81, 82. Upon this attempt, sixty-nine merchants of Newport petitioned the King "that the legislature or authority of this government may be prevented and effectually restrained from making or emitting any more bills of public credit upon loan, without your Majesty's royal permission, and be commanded to stop and recall this intended emission of August last." See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 311. In the following March an emission of £25,000 was made. This was the last, for an act to regulate and restrain the emission of colonial paper money was passed by Parliament, and by this act all issue of such bills subsequent to September, 1751, was absolutely prohibited. Provision was then made for such issues in case of emergency, and under careful regulation respecting their redemption. See for the act of March, 1751, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 321. A detailed account of the paper money epidemic in Rhode Island and of the action of the home government may be found in Rider's *Historical Tract No. 8*, referred to above. A letter to Partridge concerning the petition of the Newport merchants, and the measures to be taken to neutralize its effect, is in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 315.

To what Causes the continual depreciation of this Currency has been owing, may perhaps admit of some Dispute, but it can admit of none, that it ought not to be disregarded, and suffered to pass without Animadversion, for surely a depreciating Currency ought not to be countenanced or tolerated in any Government, for this plain Reason, because it enriches one Part of the Community at the Expence of the other.

That this has been the Case hitherto with regard to our Paper Currency is notorious, and therefore let unthinking or selfish Men be ever so loud and clamorous for a New Emission of Bills, and let them present ever so many Petitions for it, I hope this Hon<sup>ble</sup> House will not be influenced thereby, or gratify them in a Desire so unjust and unreasonable.

That the Demand of a new Emission of Bills is really and in truth unreasonable and unjust, will most evidently appear, by duely inquiring whether such an Emission at this Conjuncture be necessary, expedient and just, and whether it can be made without endangering the invaluable Privileges granted us by the Royal Charter.

In Order to set this Matter in a clear Light, it is necessary that it should be known, what Sum we have now outstanding: This has been lately ascertained, and by the Report made to the General Assembly of this Colony in February past,<sup>1</sup> an Extract of which I have now in my Hands and recommend to this Hon<sup>ble</sup> House, as deserving their serious Consideration, it appears that there was then outstanding

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<sup>1</sup> In *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 283.

Five Hundred and twenty five Thousand, three Hundred and thirty five Pounds. That this prodigious Sum is abundantly sufficient to carry on the Trade and Business of the Colony; is the unanimous Sentiment of our principal Merchants and Shopkeepers, who are the only competent Judges in this Affair, and to say that they are not Competent Judges is as absurd and groundless, as it would be to say, that a skilful Artificer or Tradesman is not a proper Judge, whether he has Materials and Tools sufficient to carry on his Trade, or that an experienced thriving Farmer knows not when his Farm is sufficiently stocked.

It is, then, manifest and undeniable, that there is no Necessity of a new Emission of Bills to carry on the Trade and Business of the Colony, and that such an Emission would be inexpedient and prejudicial also is highly probable: Our Trade is now very large, and seems to be in a pretty flourishing Condition, and an Addition to our Paper Currency with regard to Trade only, exclusive of all other Considerations, would in all probability be of as little Service, and of as bad Consequence to the Merchant, as it would be to an Artificer, to oblige him to expend his Substance in procuring a great Number of unnecessary Tools, for which he had no Use, and could do much better without, or to a Farmer to be compelled to purchase a larger Stock of Cattle than his Farm could possibly keep and maintain.

For besides the vast Sum now extant in our own Bills and some Bills of the Colony of Connecticut, it is well known, that within a few Months past such a Flood of New Hampshire Bills has been poured in

upon us from Boston, that many are greatly alarmed at it, and I dare appeal to every Member of this House that there are, in most Payments of late, at least as many New Hampshire Bills passing among us, as of our own. And as none of all these Bills, ours, Connecticut or New Hampshire, have now any Currency in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, they are all confined to narrow Limits, and are far, very far, from being of that Use and Service in carrying on our Trade, that they were before the late Act of that Province took Place. And though our Bills are now current in the Colony of Connecticut, yet that they will be so, in case a new Emission should be now made, is more than we can promise our selves. I have good Authority to say this, having been informed by Persons of Credit, that the Legislature of that Colony had agreed, in case we made a new Emission of Bills, to enact a Law against receiving them in that Government.

To suppose, then, that our Trade must thrive and increase in proportion to the quantity of Bills we emit, when those Bills are of no Value, and will have, 'tis probable, no Currency, but within the narrow Limits of this Colony, appears to be a mere Delusion and groundless Fancy. And besides Experience hath shewn, that a new Emission of Bills makes little or no Addition to the Medium of Trade, and that it ought to be looked upon only as a political device to defraud Creditors. This brings me to the next Enquiry, namely,

Whether a new Emission be consistent with Justice. That it will not, can, I think, be easily proved



beyond the Possibility of a Denial, for the undoubted and never failing Consequence of a large new Emission of Bills, hath ever been the depreciating all those that were extant before, this so manifestly appears from the above mentioned Report as to admit of no Contradiction. The Reports begins A. D., 1728, in that Year we emitted Forty Thousand Pounds in Bills, then equal to Twelve Thousand eight Hundred Pounds Sterling, of that Emission there are outstanding Two Tenths or Eight Thousand Pounds, the Value of which when first emitted was Two Thousand five Hundred and Sixty Pounds Sterling, and the Sterling Value is now but Seven Hundred and twenty seven Pounds, five Shillings and six Pence.

I need not go through all our Emissions severally, because they may be seen at one View in the before mentioned Extract, which I pray may be examined by the Clerk of this House and compared with the Report. In the whole it appears that we have outstanding upon Loan Three Hundred and Ninety Thousand Pounds, the Sterling Value thereof at the Times of Emission Seventy eight Thousand, one hundred and eleven Pounds, and the Value now sunk to Thirty five Thousand, four hundred and forty five Pounds Sterling, omitting the odd Shillings and Pence in the two last Sums.

The Depreciation of the Paper Currency in New England is really amazing, and it may be justly questioned whether the History of all past Times and Countries can afford a parallel instance. It would take up a great deal of Time to enter into a particular Detail of this Affair, and it is not necessary to

the Enquiry I am now upon, I will therefore confine my self to the aforesaid Report and Extract. The Difference between the two last mentioned Sums, being Forty two Thousand, six Hundred and sixty six Pounds Sterling, an equivalent to at least Four hundred and sixty nine Thousand, three Hundred and twenty six Pounds, Old Tenor, is what Creditors have already lost by the aforesaid Bills upon Loans exclusive of the Loss upon the Bills that have been called in and sunk, and thus plainly doth it appear that they have been robbed of great Part of their personal Estates by the Depreciation of the Currency, and if a new Emission of Bills upon the old Footing should now be made, they would most certainly be still further injured. And if this be not Injustice, it would be difficult to say what is, and whatever may or can possibly be said to palliate so great a Grievance, surely to persist in such a ruinous Practice must be wholly inexcusable.

Many of these Creditors, which makes the Case still more hard and grievous, are Widows and Orphans, who, as they are the least capable to take Care of themselves and their Estates, have the best Right to the Care and Protection of the Government, and such is their Situation and Circumstances, that they, some of them at least; as having no other Way of improving their personal Estate, which as to many of them is their All, then by letting Money at Interest, must in the Course of a few Years, unless there is a Stop put to the Depreciation, be unavoidably reduced to the sad Necessity of begging their Bread or Starving.

How unjust, cruel and inhumane it would be, to treat poor, innocent, fatherless Children, and disconsolate helpless Widows, in such a Manner, Strip them of their whole Estate and Support, the bare mentioning of it is sufficient to shew, and cannot, I think, fail to excite the Compassion of this Hon<sup>ble</sup> House, and make them utterly detest any Measure that has so barbarous a Tendency, and that would produce such doleful Effects.

But that it will be the unhappy Case of many such Widows and Orphans, if a large new Emission of Bills should be now made, there is just Ground to fear, for no Reason can be assigned, why the Currency should not depreciate as much in the next six Years, as it has done in the six last past, if large new Emissions are made upon the same Footing as heretofore, it being impossible that Bills, emitted for so long Periods, and upon such easy Terms, should keep their Value. There is no Man in his Senses that would take a Note or Bond of the richest Man that ever breathed for an Hundred Pounds payable in ten Years at ten equal annual Payments, as an Equivalent for an Hundred Pounds in Hand, for such a Note or Bond is not really worth much above half that Sum, consequently Public Bills emitted in the like Manner will never hold their Value, and as with us the Bills of every new Emission pass at Par in all Payments, with those of the former Emissions, a new Emission must necessarily lessen the Value of all the Bills, that were extant before, and appears, I think, very plainly to be, not an Addition to, or Increase of the Currency in Value, but a political Con-

trivance to defraud Creditors of their Estates, Three hundred thousand Pounds of our Currency being now less in Value, than One hundred thousand Pounds twenty Years ago.

The neighbouring Governments, especially the Province of the Massachusetts, have been culpable in this Respect, as well as we, and perhaps 'till Experience had determined the Matter, it could not have been foreseen, that large Emissions of Paper Currency would have such pernicious Effects. If any Person in the beginning of the Year 1744 should have said, that the Paper Currency in Consequence of such Emissions, would sink in six Years one Half of its then Value, or in other Words, that Silver which was then worth about thirty Shillings per Ounce, would in six Years rise to above sixty Shillings per Ounce, it is highly probable, he would have been told by the Advocates for a new Bank<sup>1</sup> then, that his Assertion was groundless and incredible, and that they would have treated it with as great Contempt, as the Petitioners for a new Emission now will or can treat this Speech, but Experience hath demonstrated, that the aforesaid Assertion would have been strictly true. And indeed the Effects and Consequences, that have in Fact attended the Paper Currency in New England, have been so apparently unjust, and so utterly indefensible, that the aforesaid Province, to atone in some Degree for their past Misconduct, and to prevent such Consequences for the future, have refused to give a Currency to any of the Bills of their neighbouring Governments, and

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<sup>1</sup> "Bank" signified an issue of bills.

made Provision for the speedy calling in and destroying of all their own.

Perhaps they have been too precipitate therein, such a Sudden and total Destruction of all Paper Currency being likely to occasion some bad Effects, and therefore I am far from desiring that this Government should imitate them in that Respect: but on the other hand, as we have really a sufficient Number of Bills already, and the creating more is rather a Contrivance to defraud Creditors, than an Addition to the Medium of Trade, and as neither Connecticut or New Hampshire seem to be in any Disposition to make a new Emission of their Bills, we shall be alone, if we venture upon such an Emission, and must therefore take upon our selves the whole Load of Infamy, and the Danger, that will be occasioned thereby. I say Infamy, for can it be called by any Softer Name, to make a new Emission of Bills, when it is foreseen, that such an Emission will deprive Numbers of innocent People of great Part of their Estates? Ought not personal Property to be safe and secure as well as real? Is it just or reasonable to take money out of the Pockets of the honest, the industrious and the frugal, and bestow it upon the fraudulent, the idle and the extravagant? Is it allowable to do any thing, which must according to the common Course of Things inevitably produce such an Effect? Will it be a whit better, or more excusable than downright Robbery, or manifest Cheating? In short the taking such a Measure appears to be so manifestly unjust, that it would be lost Time to say a Word more upon this Head. But

Whether it will be attended with Danger, I mean with Danger of forfeiting our Charter Privileges, remains yet to be considered.

Some pretend to be of the Opinion, that we have by Charter the Liberty to emit what Sums we please in Paper Currency, and when they produce a Paragraph or Clause of the Charter to that Purpose, no doubt, but that this Hon<sup>ble</sup> House will be of that Opinion too, but it is most certain, that there is not, throughout the whole Charter, one Word about the emitting any Paper Currency at all. It is true we and all the neighbouring Governments have taken the Liberty of making such Emissions, but that we and they had a Right so to do, is not so clear a Point, and 'tis certain, that his present Majesty, our most gracious Sovereign, and the Parliament of Great Britain, our Mother Country, have at times signified their Disapprobation of that Practice.

Thus, to confine my self to this Colony, in the Year 1740, the Parliament having agreed to certain Resolutions concerning the Paper Currency, in His Majesty's Plantations in America, the Lords Justices of Great Britain (the King being then in his German Dominions) sent to this Government, in pursuance of those Resolutions, certain Instructions,<sup>1</sup> to which the General Assembly of the Colony paid so much Deference, that after they had, in September that Year passed an Act for emitting Twenty Thousand Pounds in Bills equivalent to Silver at nine Shillings per Ounce, they thought themselves obliged, upon

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 7; and also Governor Ward's Report to the Lords of Trade, *Ibid.*, V. 8.

receiving said Instructions, to amend the Act aforesaid in December following, and then stated the Bills to be emitted, equivalent to Silver at six shillings and nine Pence per Ounce, as by the Act passed in December 1740 doth fully appear.<sup>1</sup> It is then undeniable that the General Assembly were of Opinion, that no other Kind of Bills, but the last mentioned, would after the said Instructions were sent to us, be agreeable to, or allowed of by the Court of Great Britain. The said Twenty thousand Pounds emitted by the Act passed in December aforesaid, the whole Sum being yet outstanding, was then in Value Fifteen Thousand, eight Hundred and two Pounds, eight Shillings Sterling, and is now worth only Seven Thousand, two hundred and seventy two Pounds, fourteen Shillings and six Pence Sterling. How this surprising Affair will be taken at Home is yet uncertain, but as we are not alone accountable for this astonishing Depreciation, and as our Neighbours, the Massachusetts in particular, on Account of their extravagant Emissions of Bills, to carry on the Expedition against Louisbourg, and that lately intended against Canada, ought to be principally charged therewith, we have good Grounds to hope it will not be imputed to us, or deemed a Contempt of the aforesaid Instructions.

And no longer ago than the last Year, His Majesty was pleased to transmit to us by his Grace the Duke of Bedford, one of His principal Secretaries of State, His Commands relating to our Currency, in obedience to which we have very lately sent Home

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<sup>1</sup> These Acts are in the *Digest for 1744*, pp. 226 *et seq.*

an Account or State thereof,<sup>1</sup> the Sum we have outstanding, the Sterling Value it was of when emitted, and the Sterling Value it was of when the Account was made out. What Reception it will have is yet unknown, but as it is a most extraordinary and surprising Thing, that the Public Currency of any Government should, in the Course of so few Years depreciate to such a Degree as ours has done, we are certainly obliged by all the Rules of Prudence to wait the Event, and not involve our selves in further and greater Difficulties and Dangers.

It is well known that a Bill for Regulating the Paper Currency in all His Majesty's Plantations in America has been preferred to the Parliament of Great Britain, and our Agent M<sup>r</sup>. Partridge hath informed us, that it was in consequence of some Resolutions of the present Parliament, that His Majesty enjoined this Government to send Home the aforementioned Account of our Currency in order to be laid before them, and this also appears, unless my Memory fails me, by his Grace the Duke of Bedford's Letter, which I pray may be read. If then the General Assembly of this Colony should, before the Matter is determined by the Parliament, take the Liberty to emit another Bank of Bills of any Sort or kind whatever, it might be deemed a daring Presumption, and be the incurring His Majesty's and the Parliament's highest Displeasure. And if that should prove to be the Case, as in all Probability it will, if we now venture upon a new Emission of Bills, whether we should have any Reason in the

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 278, 283-286.



world to expect to hold our Charter, deserves the most serious Consideration of this Hon<sup>ble</sup> House, for if our Charter should be hereby forfeited, it will be lost forever, and it would be as vain an Imagination as ever entered into any Man's Head to expect that any thing we could do, would recover what we had thus rashly and presumptuously thrown away.

The Preservation of Privileges, as valuable as any People upon the Face of the Earth enjoy, deserves, Gentlemen, of all Things under Heaven your greatest Attention, and can any Man, who will give himself Time to think seriously of this Affair of our Currency, say, we shall be in no Danger of forfeiting them, by a large new Emission of Bills at this Con-juncture? What! Affront His Majesty, our most gracious Sovereign, and the Parliament of Great Britain, our Supreme Lawgiver, by taking out of their Hands a Matter of great Importance, now under their Consideration, and run no Danger by so doing! It will not bear the Mentioning, for certainly no rational Man can possibly think it may be done with Safety.

I have now, I think, very plainly proved that a new Emission of Bills is so far from being necessary, that it would be, in all probability, pernicious to the Trade of the Colony, manifestly injurious to all Creditors in general, and ruinous to many Widows and Orphans in particular, and besides all this probably occasion the Loss of our Charter, and therefore pray in behalf of the Petitioners of this Town that the several Petitions for a new Emission may be dismissed.

The Facts I have taken notice of cannot be denied, and my Reasoning upon them is, I believe, just and conclusive, but all that I have said is Submitted to your candid Consideration by

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant

NEWPORT ON RHODE ISLAND August 24<sup>th</sup> 1750.



GOVERNOR GREENE TO THE LORDS OF TRADE.

NEWPORT RHODE ISLAND Decem<sup>r</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1750

*May it please your Lordships*

In the Beginning of August last I Received Your Lordships Letter<sup>1</sup> with the printed Copy of An Act of Parliament Made to encorage the Importation of Pig and Barr Iron from His Majesty<sup>s</sup> Colonys in America, And to prevent the erection of Any Mill or other Engine for Sliting or roling of Iron, or Any plaiting forge To work with a Tilt hammer or Any furnace for Makeing Steel, In Any of the Said Colonies And in a few Days after when the General Assembly Sat at Newport I Caused the Same to be Published In their presence; and thereupon a Committee was appointed to Make the Strictest Serch and enquirey after Such Mills engines and Furnaces, as in the Act of parliament are Mentioned and Expressed. The Gentlemen so appointed Made Report to the General Assembly at their Session in providence the Last week: who thereupon Became fully

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 314, for letter and for act of Assembly.

Assured, there is in this Colony No Such Mill or Engine for Sliting or Roleing of Iron or any plating forge to work with a Tilt Hammer, or any Furnace for Makeing Steel as Mentioned and Expresed in the aforesaid Act of Parliament, and of This they Desired me to Inform Your Lordships, I Do it accordingly being

May it please Your Lordships

Your Lordships Most obedient and Very  
Humble Servant

W. G

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Lords Commissioners for Trade and  
plantations

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 5<sup>th</sup> mo. the 3<sup>d</sup> 1751.

*Gov. Greene*

The foregoing is Copy of my last to thee per Capt Richards since w<sup>ch</sup> the Parliam<sup>t</sup> broke up the 15<sup>th</sup> Instant when they were prorogued at which time the King as usual made a Speech to both Houses a Printed Copy whereof comes inclosed in the Gazette.

The Act concerning Paper Bills of Credit (with the amendm<sup>ts</sup>) thou wilt see is passed the Royal Assent after a pretty deal of debating in the House of Commons but as it is, greatly altered from what it was when first formed, the Sting being taken out, and for that now it may probably be a means to prevent any further depreciation of the Paper

Money and other circumstances consid<sup>d</sup>. It is to be hoped the Act will not be attended w<sup>th</sup> any great Injury to the Colony especially too as all the other 3 N. E. Colonys are included and put on the same Bottom.<sup>1</sup>

The Parliam<sup>t</sup> have also passed an Act this Sessions for the Encouragm<sup>t</sup> of making Pot Ash in our Plantations by taking off the Duty which is about £6 per Tun or upwards which we hope will prove beneficial, wherein I contributed my Assistance in the Solicitation.

There are lately some change in the Ministry, the Earl of Granville is appoint<sup>d</sup> President of the Council, in the Room of the Duke of Dorset, who is going over L<sup>d</sup> L<sup>t</sup> of Ireland. The Earl of Holderness made Sec<sup>y</sup> of State in the Room of the D. of Bedford, and L<sup>d</sup> Anson first Com<sup>r</sup> of the Admiralty in the Room of Lord Sandwich and they say Lord Gower the Privy Seal has also resigned. I am &c

Thy Friend

R. P.

24<sup>th</sup> Ditto

I wrote thee last of 3<sup>d</sup> Inst via New London since which I have been served w<sup>th</sup> Notice<sup>2</sup> from the West India Agents of their Intention to apply to Parliam<sup>t</sup> again early next Sessions for a Prohibit<sup>e</sup> Act respecting the Trade of the Northern Colonys,

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<sup>1</sup> See note to the Governor's message to the House, August 24, 1750.

<sup>2</sup> See the following document. The Assembly were already preparing to oppose any such solicitation. See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 331.

on the same footing doubtless as was Solicited for in the last Sessions, wherefore in the mean time ample Instructions sho<sup>d</sup> be sent over hither for Conduct<sup>s</sup> in behalf of the Colony, inclosed is a Copy of said Notice in writing that was sent me, who am as above

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

I have accepted all thy latter Bills on me, the last that came to hand was that of £275. Pay<sup>ble</sup> to Edw<sup>d</sup> Kinnicutt.

6 mo. or Aug<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup>.

Since the foregoing my Sol<sup>r</sup> Paris has sent me in, his Bill of Costs for the Business transacted for your Colony in the last Sessions of Parliament about the Paper Currency Bill only, amounting to £375:19.8 a Copy whereof I send thee here inclosed which I think extravagantly high and therefore I intend to dispute it with him before I pay the Money.

And I am Still yet more confirmed it was well I did not proceed further in s<sup>d</sup> Paper Currency affair, for if I had gone through at the Commons and followed it at the Lords it might probably have come to near as much more, and this is besides an acco<sup>t</sup> he brought me in for Connecticutt of £51.18.8 and besides his Bill of Costs for opposing the West India Merch<sup>ts</sup> in their late Prohibiting Scheme, the whole of which West Ind<sup>a</sup> Affair for the 4 Colonys (which I represent) he makes to am<sup>o</sup> together to £414.18.11. more, which I shall also contend with him about:

but more of this hereafter, interim I remain, as before

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

To Governour GREEN  
Rhode Island

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THE WEST INDIAN AGENTS TO RICHARD PARTRIDGE.<sup>1</sup>

Tho' from what passed when the Petition of the Merchants of London in general and of the British Sugar Planters Merchants and others praying the prohibiting the Northern Colonies from taking any Sugar Rum and Molasses from the French and other foreign Sugar Settlements was under the Consideration of the House of Commons this last Session and the Declaration then made that the like application would be resumed the next Session of Parliament We apprehend any formal notice of such Intention to be unnecessary Yet to avoid all pretence on behalf of the Northern Colonies of their not having such Notice We do hereby give you this notice in Writing that we purpose and intend to renew the like Application to the House of Commons upon or immediately after the commencement of the next Session in Parliament in order to obtain an Act of Parliament to prevent His Majesty's Subjects of the Northern Colonies from buying or taking by way of Barter or Exchange or otherwise howsoever any foreign Sugar Rum or Molasses from any foreign Settlement whatsoever and to prohibit the Importation thereof into any of His Majesty's Dominions

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed in letter of July 3, 1751.

As Witness our hands this Eleventh day of July  
1751.

JN<sup>O</sup> SHARPE Agent for { Jamaica  
Barbadoes  
Antiqua and  
Novis

JA<sup>S</sup> GEO: DOUGLAS Agent  
for S<sup>t</sup> Christophers

JON: WILMOT Agent for  
Montserrat,

TO RICHARD PARTRIDGE Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Agent for his Majesty's Coloney of Rhode Island  
and Providence Plantations.

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THOMAS HILL<sup>1</sup> TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF  
RHODE ISLAND.

WHITEHALL July 9<sup>th</sup> 1751.

*Gentlemen,*

Three Acts having been passed in the last Session  
of Parliament, wherein the British Plantations are  
concern'd, viz<sup>t</sup>

An Act for continuing several Laws therein men-  
tion'd relating to the Premiums upon the Importa-  
tion of Masts, Yards and Bowsprits, Tar, Pitch and  
Turpentine; to British made Sail-Cloth, and the  
Duty payable on foreign Sail Cloth; and to the  
Allowance upon the Exportation of British made  
Gun powder.

An Act to regulate and restrain Paper Bills of

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<sup>1</sup> Secretary to the Lords of Trade.

Credit in His Majesty's Colonies or Plantations of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, the Massachusetts Bay and New Hampshire in America, and to prevent the same being legal Tenders in Payment of Money.<sup>1</sup>

An Act for encouraging the making of Pot Ashes and Pearl Ashes in the British Plantations in America.<sup>2</sup>

I am directed by my Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations to send the inclosed printed Copies of them, for Your Information and Government in the several Matters therein contain'd. I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

THO<sup>S</sup>. HILL

Gov<sup>r</sup> and Comp<sup>r</sup> of Rhode Island

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 4<sup>th</sup> mo. or Apr<sup>l</sup> the 10<sup>th</sup> 1752

*Gov<sup>r</sup>. Greene*

I wrote thee last of the 6<sup>th</sup> Ult. via Boston to which I refer having since rec<sup>d</sup> none of thy favours. The Parliam<sup>t</sup> broke up the 26<sup>th</sup> Ult. and the King soon after set off for his German Dominions and is safe arrived in the Holland leaving the Royal Authority, as to the Kingdom with a Number of Lords appointed Regents as Usual.

As the Parliam<sup>t</sup> were prorogued sooner than ordinary a pretty deal of business was postponed so that

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<sup>1</sup> See note to letter of August 24, 1750.

<sup>2</sup> See letter of July 3, 1751.



the West India Gentlemen did nothing at all this Sessions in their intended Scheme respecting The Trade with the Foreign Sugar Islands,<sup>1</sup> But it's very likely they will prosecute it the next Year.

I send thee per this Conveyance some of our London Prints to be forwarded to thee per a private hand of which I desire thy acceptance.

From Thy assured Friend

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

5<sup>th</sup> mo. or May the 4<sup>th</sup>

The foregoing is Copy of my last to thee, and now this accompanys my acco<sup>t</sup> w<sup>th</sup> the Colony the Ball<sup>ce</sup> whereof is £240. 14. 0. Sterl. in my favour. I have charged in the said acco<sup>t</sup> 2<sup>ds</sup> of my Sol<sup>r</sup> Bills for acco<sup>t</sup> of the opposition in Parliament, on the Score of the Paper Currency Affair, and the other 1<sup>d</sup> to the Colony of Connecticut, in as much as the Commencement of the Solicitation was principally at first against Rhode Island only, which involved the Colony of Connecticutt, and I charge as thou wilt see but £101. 12. 9. being 1<sup>th</sup> of the Sol<sup>r</sup> Bills in the opposition to the West India Merchants and Planters which for the 4 Colonies I represent am<sup>o</sup> together to £406. 10. 11, but as I apprehended my Sol<sup>r</sup> has charg'd his Bills too extravagantly, I have not yett Setled with him expecting I shall get him to make some abatement, and what ever I get taken off I shall Credit your Colony with a due proportion of. I hear the Charge of the Pet<sup>r</sup> of Rh<sup>d</sup> Island for the late Act relating to Paper Currency in Parliament amounts to near £700, which I think is very extraordinary.

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 133.

No Material alterations in the Ministry of late. Lord Holderness the present Sec<sup>y</sup> of State holds still his Office, as some people will have it as his Predecessors had it before, notwithstanding the Report of its likelihood of being divided and part thereof with relation to the Plantations given to another Lord, but yet some assert it to be otherwise, and that the Board of Trade are invested with part of the powers of the Sec<sup>y</sup> of State<sup>Ship</sup> relating to the Plantations.<sup>1</sup> And now I have of this date drawn upon thee for £200. Sterl. payable at 40 days sight to my Friend Gideon Wanton towards paying our Sol<sup>r</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> please to honour accordingly.

I have lately had a Message from one of the Board of Trade hinting it is likely in the next Sessions of Parliam<sup>t</sup> some endeavours will be used to get the Sugar and Mollasses Act revived again as it is near expiring, but that on the other hand probably some means will be used to postpone or drop it and have a new Act passed lowering the Duty to 2d. or 1d. per Gall. on Mollasses in lieu of the present duty, wherefore it may be necessary for me to have Instructions thereabout, in the meantime, I am with respects to thyself, and the Gent<sup>n</sup> of the Council and House of Representatives

Thy and their assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

TO WILLIAM GREENE Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governour of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations

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<sup>1</sup> See letters to Governor Greene, directing all future communications in the way of ordinary business to be sent to the Lords of Trade; also Order in Council for the regulation of the plantations; and letter of Governor Greene to Partridge. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 350-355, 359.

RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON Nov: 15<sup>th</sup> 1753*Gov. Greene*

Thine of 23<sup>d</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> last per Cap<sup>t</sup> Sheldon I have duly rec<sup>d</sup> and according to what is expected of me from yo<sup>r</sup> Colony I intend to be on the watch respecting any thing especially as to Trade and Commerce in the House of Commons and exert my Endeavours for the good of the Colony as there may be occasion and give thee timely notice thereof, and send over Such Laws as shall pass here w<sup>ch</sup> materially may affect the Northern Colonies.

As to the old Sugar Act<sup>1</sup> it was for a while apprehended that it would be repealed and a new one Enacted for a duty of one penny a gall only on Mollasses instead of 6<sup>d</sup> as it now stands, but the Parliam<sup>t</sup> rose without doing any thing in it, and altho' that Act was mention'd among the expiring Laws yet it seems it does not end till the year 1755. But there was a sort of Coalition come into w<sup>th</sup> Some of the Active Members of the House of Commons to let the time run out as it now stands, and be continued for one year after that, yet to be discussed in Parliament the ensuing Sessions or the Sessions next after — w<sup>ch</sup> measure it is supposed in some degree will weaken the Argument for the continuance of that Act, but be it howsoever it happens I intend to advise thee as early as I can the needful concerning it.

And as to the Settlem<sup>t</sup> of yo<sup>r</sup> Northern Boundary<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Act of 1733. See note on p. 19 of vol. I.

<sup>2</sup> See a report of the Rhode Island and Connecticut committees thereupon, *Col.*

w<sup>ch</sup> thou mentionest, — when ever I shall have rec<sup>d</sup> the Colonies Instructions thereabout I intend my best Endeav<sup>r</sup> shall not be wanting for their Interest, tho' thou canst not but be sensible it will be attended w<sup>th</sup> great Expence; for the Lords of the Privy Council, or the Lords of Trade will scarce take upon them to determine such an Affair without issuing a Commission under the great Seal to appoint Commissioners out of the Neighbouring Gov<sup>m</sup><sup>ts</sup> as usual in such cases, w<sup>ch</sup> bare Commiss<sup>n</sup> will come to above £100 Sterl besides all other charges.

And now I must inform thee that at length on Settling acco<sup>ts</sup> with our Solicitors Bills in the late Transactions at the Board of Trade and House of Commons, I have got some considerable abatement made thereon, and have credited the acco<sup>t</sup> of Rh<sup>d</sup> Island Colony for their proportion thereof amounting to £85 : 15 : 0 Sterling.

And as I think I have all along acted hitherto for the Colonies Interest according to my ability and Judgment with integrity, and in diverse Instances its well Known have been attended with good Success of which many can Witness for me, yet its possible I may have some Enemies (not sensible of it) endeavouring to prepossess the minds of those Gentlemen who are my Constituents ag<sup>st</sup> me, but that shall not in the least abate my Zeal nor discourage me from doing my duty in behalf of those I represent; and I cannot well omit acknowledging with gratitude the sence of obligation I have of my Friends in the

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*Rec. of R. I.*, V. 346; and a petition of the Governor and Company to the Crown, March 2, 1753, *Ibid.*, V. 367.

House of Representatives who have thought fit to continue their favourable Regards towards me, who am with kind respects to thy Self the Gentlemen of the Council and Assembly

Thy and their assured Friend

RICH.<sup>D</sup> PARTRIDGE

TO WILLIAM GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governour of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 3<sup>d</sup> mo. or March 7<sup>th</sup> 1754

*Gov<sup>r</sup>. Greene*

My last to thee was of Novem<sup>r</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> per Cap<sup>t</sup> Davis via Boston w<sup>ch</sup> I hope thou hast rec<sup>d</sup>, since that I have had none of thy favours — As to publick Affairs, This Sessions of Parliam<sup>t</sup> holds out longer than was once expected, but nothing has been done in it or attempted hitherto to the prejudice of the Planta<sup>s</sup>, Save that in the Course of the demand on the Estimate for a further Supply for Nova Scotia some satirical expressions were thrown out very Severely ag<sup>st</sup> Charter Gov<sup>r</sup>m<sup>ts</sup> particularly Rhode Island by a Member of the House w<sup>ch</sup> indicated such threatnings as if something was certainly intended at a proper Season hereafter to take them in hand for Malepractices, tho' I did not understand they descended to particulars w<sup>ch</sup> no doubt they imagine they have sufficient Matter to alledge ag<sup>st</sup> the Colony that will affect their Charter privileges: perhaps the time they

aim at for it will be the next Sessions, to take the opportunity when the Sugar and Molasses Act comes to be considered and discussed in Parliam<sup>t</sup>

May I be worthy to advise I wo<sup>d</sup> recommend your Legislature to act in all their proceedings with Candour, Caution, and Strict Justice that our Enemies may have no occasion to clamour, which will certainly redound to their Honour and Reputation and make things easier for their Agent to appear in their Vindication; I hope they will forgive the freedom I take after this sort w<sup>ch</sup> I do assure thee is from a motive of true regard to their own advantage and welfare, being perswaded as I am that they are very sensible I have hitherto endeav<sup>d</sup> according to my best understanding to vindicate the Rights and Privileges of their Charter and w<sup>ch</sup> has been attended with Success, and the continuance whereof I esteem it my duty to persue. and further I must needs say respecting the above asperitions, it is not the first time that harsh Things have been vehemently uttered before the Lords of Trade as well as in the H<sup>o</sup> of Commons but as they were transient and not formal Complaints there was no occasion then to take any further notice of them.

Yesterday dyed Henry Pelham Esq<sup>r</sup>, which must make some alteration in the Ministry and they say Hen: Fox Esq<sup>r</sup> Sec<sup>ry</sup> at War is likely to succeed him, but its uncertain, as Chancelor of the Excheq<sup>r</sup> &c,<sup>1</sup> and on this occasion both Houses of Parliam<sup>t</sup> have ad-

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<sup>1</sup> Newcastle became First Lord of the Treasury in his brother's place, and was regarded as Prime Minister. Henry Fox became Secretary of State in 1755, following Sir Thomas Robinson.

journ'd to the 12<sup>th</sup> or 14 Inst — for the rest I refer thee to the Magazines and News Papers herewith sent of which I desire thy acceptance from

Thy assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

To Governor GREENE.

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 7<sup>th</sup> mo or July 30. 1754

*Gov. Greene*

I wrote thee last of the 2<sup>d</sup> of 4<sup>th</sup> mo. per Cap<sup>t</sup> Rodman to which I refer having Since that rec<sup>d</sup> none of thy favours. This now comes at the request of Thom<sup>s</sup> Stephens who is a Gentleman as I apprehend well acquainted with the method of making potash, which he has satisfied the Kings Ministers in, and they have agreed w<sup>th</sup> him as I am informed on Terms suitable to a dozin years labour and as many hund<sup>d</sup> Pounds St<sup>r</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> he alledges he has expended.<sup>1</sup>

I need not say that the Ministry w<sup>d</sup> be as glad so valuable a Branch of Commerce to this Kingdom sh<sup>d</sup> Succeed (for making Returns) in the Colonies as People there wou'd be themselves.

I was present before the Lords of Trade when he was examin'd very particularly as to his Abilities in making this Comodity, and which according to my observance and judgment was demonstrated very evi-

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<sup>1</sup> In October, 1753, the Assembly granted to Moses Lopez of Newport the sole right of manufacturing potash in the colony, for a term of ten years. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 376.

dently as to the goodness of the quality wherein the Lords took a good deal of pains at the Examination.

the price here of Russia potash (w<sup>ch</sup> I understand is the best) is commonly Sold at 35/ per Sterl<sup>s</sup>, and it is expected it may be made considerably cheaper in our Plantations so as to under sell the East Country Commodity especially too as the Duty w<sup>ch</sup> is about £6 — a Tun, is lately taken off by Act of Parliament.

As he now goes over to America on purpose to set this Manufacture on foot, the Colonies promoting it might be grateful to the Duke of Newcastle and other Personages of note who are disposed to encourage it, as well as of Service to the Colonies

I am                      Thy assured Friend

RICH<sup>D</sup> PARTRIDGE

the taking of the duty of Potash is owing principally to the industry of the above s<sup>d</sup> Gentleman and without him I really beleive it had not been done.

TO WILLIAM GREENE Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governour of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 8 mo : (Aug<sup>r</sup>) 22<sup>d</sup> : 1754.

*Gov<sup>r</sup>. Greene*

My last to thee was of 30<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>1</sup> per Tho<sup>s</sup> Stephens a Gent<sup>n</sup> gone over to New England to promote the Manufacture of Pot ash in our Plantations encouraged by the Ministry here.

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<sup>1</sup> See preceding letter.



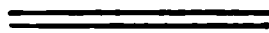
All Matters at present remain quiet respecting your Colony but I am apprehensive next Sessions of Parliam<sup>t</sup> (which is to meet in November next for dispatch of business) something will be on the Carpet relating to the West India Trade, about which I shall be on the Watch.

The Kings Ministers of late have been very intent and anxious as I apprehend on the Incroachm<sup>ts</sup> of the French on the Territories of our Plantations about the River Ohio on the back of Virginia, Pensylv<sup>a</sup> &c<sup>a</sup> and Special Orders are again lately gone over to the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Virginia &c<sup>a</sup> thereupon: with orders as I have been informed, and Credit given to draw Bills for a Considerable Sum (besides what the Provinces thereabouts will advance themselves) in order to raise Forces Sufficient to repel force by force. for the rest I refer to the Prints herewith sent, and remain

Thy assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

To Governour GREENE  
of Rhode Island &c



GOVERNOR GREENE TO GOVERNOR SHARPE.

NEWPORT RHODE ISLAND Nov<sup>r</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> 1754.

*Sir*

Your fav<sup>r</sup> of the 8<sup>th</sup> of Novem<sup>r</sup> Currant,<sup>1</sup> I This Day Received by which You Request Some Assistance from this Government To Repel the encroach-

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 403.

ments that the French are and have Been making on his Majesty's Dominions in Your Parts of the Continent;<sup>1</sup> and wherein You also Request that I Will Use my Indeavour with the Generall Assembly of this Colony to Procure Such Supplies either of Men or Money, as the Exigency of affairs Does at this Time Demand; Sir you may Depend I Shall Strictly observe Your Request And Communicate the Same to the General Assembly of this Colony at their Next Meeting, which will be on the Last Munday in February Next; And Shall Move it In the most pressing manner That they at the first opening of the Assembly, Will take the Same into Consideration: And Shall Inform you of their Resolve as Soon as may be, but if You Should be of opinion that it will be to late In the Spring then to Answer the Intention and Design Please to Signifie it to me as Soon as may be That I may Govern my Self Accordingly

I am Sir Your Most Obedient Humble Servant

W. G

Gov<sup>r</sup> Maryland



RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON Dec<sup>r</sup> the 9<sup>th</sup> 1754.

*Gov<sup>r</sup> Greene*

My last to thee was of 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>d</sup> Octo<sup>r</sup> per Cap<sup>t</sup> Bruce via Boston since w<sup>ch</sup> I have rec<sup>d</sup> none of thy favours

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<sup>1</sup> See *Introduction*, p. xxxvi. The Assembly met in January, in response to a letter from Secretary Robinson calling for troops. This is printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 406. See for action of the Assembly, *Ibid.*, V. 404.

The Parliament has now been sitting from the 14<sup>th</sup> ult but I dont understand any thing has been yet on the Carpet there relating to the Northern Colonies except some Resolutions of Grants for Money for the 2 Regim<sup>ts</sup> to be raised in America &c.<sup>1</sup> the Transports w<sup>th</sup> the Forces destin'd for Virginia by this time may probably be got to Ireland from whence they will doubtless depart with all Expedition and as we hear carry with them 36000, ounces and upwards of Silver tow<sup>d</sup> Support of the Troops when they get to Virginia.

The old Sugar and Mollasses Act expires at the End of this Sessions of Parliam<sup>t</sup> and Scarce any body beleives it will be renewd again in the same Shape as it was for that it is conjectured the duty will be considerably lowerd on Mollasses w<sup>ch</sup> we suppose will be no ways Grateful to the West India Gentlemen.

I think the apprehensions now of general War seems to abate. for the rest I refer to the Print here inclosed and to the Magazine &c of the last month w<sup>ch</sup> I send for thee to my Correspond<sup>t</sup> And<sup>r</sup> Oliver of Boston to be forwarded by a private hand wherein thou wilt see the Substance of the Kings Speech to the Parliam<sup>t</sup> and the House of Lords and Commons Addresses.

Inclosed is a Copy of an Advertiz<sup>m</sup>t printed in our London Gazette of 22<sup>d</sup> Jan<sup>ry</sup> last, and as it is published by Authority it may be depended on as real and genuine, w<sup>ch</sup> is a discovery for converting Sea Water into fresh and doubtless may be of great Utility to Seafaring Men which I thought proper to

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<sup>1</sup> See letter of Secretary Robinson in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 406.

send thee it shoud not have been with you before.  
Josh<sup>a</sup> Appleby the Inventor was one of our Society<sup>1</sup>  
who is since deceased and his Representatives are  
about applying to Parliam<sup>t</sup> for a Suitable Reward. I  
am with due Respects to thySelf &c Gentl<sup>n</sup> &c  
Thy and their assured Friend

R<sup>D</sup> PARTRIDGE

TO WILLIAM GREENE Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations

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GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO DEPUTY-GOVERNOR GARDNER.<sup>2</sup>

BOSTON Jan<sup>y</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 1755

*Sir,*

I am favour'd with your Letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> Instant<sup>3</sup>  
by M<sup>r</sup> Chace.

I wish every English Colony in North America  
was animated, Sir, with the same Spirit and Zeal  
for his Maj<sup>y</sup>'s Service and the general Welfare of his  
Colonies, that the Governm<sup>t</sup> of Rhode Island hath  
shown in the Instance of it mention'd in the letter  
w<sup>ch</sup> I have the honour to recieve from you, at this  
Critical Conjunction of Affairs.

I am in daily Expectation of recieving his Majes-  
ty's further Commands from the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir Thomas

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<sup>1</sup> The Society of Friends.

<sup>2</sup> John Gardner served Rhode Island as boundary commissioner in 1737, commis-  
sary-general in the war of 1744, deputy-governor in 1754, and again, from 1756 until his  
death in 1764.

<sup>3</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 405. See also the act of Assembly for raising a  
company of one hundred men.

Robinson, and the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Fox his Maj<sup>y</sup>'s principal Secretary at Warr, and will upon the receipt of them do my self the honour to give your letter a particular Answer in every respect.

I beg, in the mean time, you would make my Complim<sup>ts</sup> to his Honour Governour Green, and assure him that I have a very great regard and respect for him and every Branch of his Governm<sup>t</sup>, as I have a particular one for your self, being,

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir,

Your most Humble and most Obedient Servant

W SHIRLEY

P. S. Last Saturday I prorogu'd the Assembly of this Province to the 5<sup>th</sup> of Feb<sup>y</sup>, when they will meet upon business of importance.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> JOHN GARDNER Esq<sup>r</sup>

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HENRY BABCOCK TO THOMAS WARD.

WESTERLY Feb 8. 1755

S<sup>r</sup>

Your Favour of Octob<sup>r</sup> 8 together with the inclosed Act of Parliament had the Pleasure to receive, for which I take this Opportunity of returning You my grateful Acknowledgements. And as you was pleased to advise us of agreeing on the 4 Days in which to exercise; pursuant to your Directions we have agreed, The Days are — Last Monday in March. First Monday in May; after the general Election. First Monday in September. Last Monday in October.

We wait only for our Charter and Commissions —

as we have raised a Company and like to have near a hundred if nothing should impede it more than is imagined.

The Officers are the same with this small Alteration our Ensign we have stiled 2<sup>d</sup> Lieutenant—  
Henry Babcock Cap<sup>t</sup> John Champlin first Lieu<sup>nt</sup>  
Ichabod Babcock Ju<sup>r</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> Lieu<sup>nt</sup> I am S<sup>r</sup>

your most obedient most obliged and very humble  
Ser<sup>t</sup>

HENRY BABCOCK

THOMAS WARD Esq<sup>r</sup>

IN COUNCIL

Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> 1755. The Choice of Officers for the Artillery Comp<sup>y</sup> of Westerly and Charlestown is approved and the Secretary is directed to make a Charter and Commissions accordingly

By Ord<sup>r</sup>

THO. WARD Secretary

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GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

BOSTON March 26, 1755

*Sir.*

I herewith inclose you a Copy of the Report of a Committee of the General Assembly of this Province, accepted by the whole Court relating to the immediate Prosecution of the intended Expedition for securing these Colonies against the Encroachments of the French,<sup>1</sup> with a Proclamation which I have

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<sup>1</sup> In a letter of Shirley of February 24, 1755 (printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 414), the plan of "the intended expedition" is detailed. In concert with Governor Lawrence of Nova Scotia he had planned an attack on Fort Beausejour, "upon the isthmus

already issued for raising Soldiers within this Province for that Service, as also a Form of a Commission to be given by the Several Governours to their Respective Officers, for your Honours Consideration; It seeming proper that these Commissions should be issued in one Form. Your Honour will be pleased to observe that our Assembly have engaged to Col<sup>o</sup> Johnson to pay their Proportion of the Charge of the Indians of the Six Nations, that may be retained in the Service, which is done in Confidence that the other Governments will join with Us; Therefore it is necessary that Col<sup>o</sup> Johnson should be seasonably apprized of the Resolution of the other Governments as to this Article, that so he may act with Safety as to his Agreement with those Indians; for this Reason I have written already to Col<sup>o</sup> Johnson, and hope your Honour will do the like: There must be some Proportion of Cannon and Warlike Stores for the Use thereof provided by every Government, which Your Honour will be pleased to take Care of in your own Government.

I am with very Great Regard, Sir,  
Your Honour's most Humble and most Obedient  
Servant,

W SHIRLEY

His Honour WILLIAM GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>

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of the peninsula," and was anxious that at the same time the forces of the southern colonies should march against the French posts in the Ohio country, while troops from New York, New Jersey, and New England should attack and fortify Crown Point, the key to Lake Champlain. Shirley proposed to send 1200 men from Massachusetts, and to give the command to Colonel William Johnson, Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

Rhode Island voted 400 men for the Crown Point expedition, and, by a later vote, that deficiencies in these companies might be filled up by the Indians of the Six Nations. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 418, 430.

THOMAS CRANSTON AND PETER BOURS<sup>1</sup> TO THE COMMITTEE  
OF WAR.<sup>2</sup>

NEWPORT RHODE ISLAND May 22<sup>d</sup> 1755

*Gen<sup>m</sup>.*

If itt Should bee thought advisable to dispatch  
Cap<sup>t</sup> Coles<sup>3</sup> Company next week the article of pow-  
der is wanting we Should think itt the Surest way  
to have itt in Season, to purchas itt in Boston, if  
to be had, and Sent up in a cart, be So good as to  
think of itt, and if you purchas armes and Blanketts,  
purchas powder allso if posable, wee made mention of  
your purchasing provitions in our last, if you canot  
purchas, them, with you, wee Should bee glad to know  
itt as Soone as posable,

from yr

Hum<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>ts</sup>

THO. CRANSTON

PETER BOURS



THE COMMITTEE OF WAR TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.<sup>4</sup>

NEWPORT May 27<sup>th</sup> 1755

*Gent<sup>m</sup>.*

We have rec<sup>d</sup> your Letters,<sup>5</sup> and note the Con-  
tents, and are of opinion that it wou'd be best to  
have 300 Blankets, and 100 Small arms, with all

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<sup>1</sup> Two deputies from Newport.

<sup>2</sup> This body "of five or more suitable persons" had powers of general supervision and direction over the enlistments, transportation, payment, and execution of the commands of the home government, during the recess of the General Assembly. See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 410.

<sup>3</sup> Edward Coles, captain of the first company of the troops for Crown Point.

<sup>4</sup> For an account of Hopkins, see p. xxxv of the *Introduction*. He was governor of Rhode Island from 1755 to 1757, 1758 to 1762, 1763 to 1765, and in 1767.

<sup>5</sup> See letter of May 22.



Expedition from Boston, We expect to make up 100 Blankets in this Town, and 100 Small Arms; the Pork you have, Reserve for the Expedition; what arms more may be Wanting must take of the Governments and Replace them as soon as possible, as we wou'd not have the Colony Destitute.

We shou'd be glad to have the Presents of his Hon<sup>r</sup> the Govern<sup>r</sup> here as soon as he can, and We think it Absolutely necessary,

We are Gen<sup>m</sup>

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> hum Serv<sup>t</sup>

JONA NICHOLS } Comm<sup>tees</sup> of War<sup>1</sup>  
PETER BOURS }

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THE COMMITTEE OF WAR TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.<sup>2</sup>

NEWPORT June 4<sup>th</sup> 1755

*Gentlemen,*

We think it necessary for the Transports You have at Providence to be sent to Newport as soon as possible to take on Board Part of the Provisions purchased for the Forces and Tents &c. We choose to put as much of each Article as appertains to a Company on Board each Vessel, if the Small Arms and Blanketts are arrived from Boston You can send too of the latter for the Use of the Southern Forces.

We are with Esteem Gent<sup>n</sup>

Y<sup>r</sup> most obedient humble Serv<sup>ts</sup>

JONA NICHOLS  
THO<sup>s</sup>. CRANSTON  
PETER BOURS

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<sup>1</sup> See note to preceding letter.

<sup>2</sup> See letters of May 22 and 27, 1755.

P. S. we give five hundred pounds to Each of our Transports they finding water Casks and platforms for the men.

To The Hon<sup>ble</sup> STEPHEN HOPKINS and DAN<sup>l</sup> JENKS  
Esq<sup>r</sup>  
att Providence

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

7 mo. July the 4<sup>th</sup> 1755

*Governor Hopkins,*

As I am lately inform'd from your Colony that at the late Election there for a Governour the Choice has fallen upon thee I therefore take this Opportunity via Philadel<sup>a</sup> to congratulate thee thereon and look upon it my Duty to Inform thee from Time to Time of such Occurrences here as may affect the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations My last letter directed to the Governour thereof (which was for the Time being) was of the 24. 5mo or May to which I refer. We understand that great preparations are making in No America to repulse the Encroachments of the French and which our Governm<sup>t</sup> here too seem to have very much at Heart; Scarce ever were more vigorous Naval Armaments carried on than has been of late. we hear your Colony has raised 400 Men for some Expedition but I don't remember to have had any Notice of it by letter from any Person there. we are Still quite at an Uncertainty relating to War or Peace, if there should

be a Rupture it's expected it will begin in America.<sup>1</sup> The King continues in his Germain Dominions still but is expected to return sometime before the Parliament Meets in Novem<sup>r</sup> next when very probably some matters relating to the Plantations will be brought on the Carpet. There has been of Late a Rumour as if a War with the Sallee<sup>2</sup> was likely to happen because of their having taken an English Ship and carried her into one of their Ports, but that is now all blown over the Said Ship being restored which we have from the Publick Authority in the Gazette, the Paragraph is as follows; "Gibralter May the 30<sup>th</sup> 1755  
 "Capt Maplesdon in his Majesties Sloop Fortune  
 "return'd hither this day from Sallee with the Vessel  
 "Cargo Crew and passeng<sup>rs</sup> lately siezed off Arzilla  
 "by a Salletine Cruizer which has been restored  
 "without the least plunder or embezlement, and the  
 "most Solemn protestations have been made by the  
 "Bashaw and Government that they are determined  
 "to Shew the greatest Regard to the English Nation  
 "and Colours. on the arrival of this Vessel and people from Sallee Several Moors whom the Gov<sup>r</sup> had  
 "detained here on Acc<sup>t</sup> of the late Capture were  
 "immediately Set at liberty

This I judged necessary to advise thee of also and

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<sup>1</sup> For the colonists the war began when Fort Duquesne was built on the headwaters of the Ohio. War was a practical fact when Jumonville was discovered and defeated near Great Meadows in 1754. For Europe, however, war was in anticipation until Boscawen's fleet met and defeated three French ships, June 8, 1755.

<sup>2</sup> Also Salee and Sale. A seaport on the coast of Morocco, and a stronghold of the Mediterranean pirates.

remain with due Respects to thyself, Gentlem<sup>n</sup> of the  
Council and H<sup>o</sup> of Representatives

Thy Assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON 8 m<sup>o</sup> or Aug<sup>t</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1755.

*Gov<sup>r</sup>. Hopkins.*

I Wrote thee of 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Ult. via Philadelphia, to w<sup>ch</sup> I referr thee, and as now we Seem to be at the Eve of a War, I judged it necessary to be frequent in my Advices, and there being no Ship just now likely to Sail for New England, I send this via Halifax, to acquaint thee, that, no War is yet Proclaimed either by the French or English, that we hear of, and People vary in their Opinions about it, but this I think may be relyed on that our Ministry will Scarce do it, till the French Declares; yet our Naval Preparations continue still vigourously, and Adm<sup>l</sup> Hawke is lately Sailed with a Strong Fleet of large Men of War, but their destin<sup>t</sup> is kept a profound Secret. The taking of the two French Men of Warr and their Forts at Chignecto, is highly resented by the French; <sup>1</sup> Now People here are in daily expecta-

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<sup>1</sup> The only successful portion of the fourfold campaign. See note to letter of March 26, 1755.

tion about the Success of our other Forces in America on their Sev<sup>l</sup> Expeditions, and I believe are most in fear for that under Gen<sup>l</sup> Braddock, lest the French sho<sup>d</sup> be more numerous at the Ohio, than was expected: The King is not yet returned from Hanover but probably it will not be long first.

As to the affair wrote to me of, by your late Governor Green,<sup>1</sup> concerning Cannon &c. for your Fortification at Newport, I have been with S<sup>r</sup> Tho: Robinson and delivered him the Letter wrote to him on that Subject, who received me Courteously, and read it while I was present I desired his favourable influence for obtaining what was desired or to that purpose, but he Seemed to excuse himself, alledging their ordnance was pretty much Exhausted, in So much that Some Cannon was lately refused to be Granted for Halifax and directed me to the Council Office for my application, accordingly I wrote to Lord President a Letter inclosing with it a Copy of the Profil of the Fortification, and of the Letter to S<sup>r</sup> Tho: Robinson, and lodged a proper Petition at the Council Office also to be considered at the next following Committee, w<sup>ch</sup> Comt<sup>ee</sup> of Council Sate Yesterday, when I attended, but the Lord Presid<sup>t</sup> was not willing to do anything in relation to our affair nor to any other application of the like kind, — as I understood by the Clerk of the Council, which were then Soliciting for; but notwithstanding this I intend to try If I can get it, put in the estimate ag<sup>t</sup> next Sessions of Parliament

I am with Respects to thy Self and the Gent<sup>le</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See instructions given by the Assembly, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 411.

of the Council and House of Representatives Thy  
assured Friend

RICH<sup>D</sup> PARTRIDGE

I am now at the 23<sup>d</sup> D<sup>o</sup> No War is yet proclaimed,  
and it seems now to be confirmed that the King of  
Spain has determined to keep in Friendship with the  
English w<sup>ch</sup> doubtless is a great Baulk to the French  
R P.

TO STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations

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GOVERNOR HOPKINS TO THE TWO HOUSES OF ASSEMBLY.

*To the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, in the  
Colony of Rhode Island.*

*Gentlemen,*

To give you an opportunity of knowing the pre-  
sent position of Affairs in North America; and, of  
exerting your selves according to your Abilitys, for  
putting them in a better Condition: hath occasioned  
your being called together at this Time.

The Defeat, of the English Army at the River  
Monogohala,<sup>1</sup> The Death of the General, and many  
other brave Officers, The loss, of so many Men; with  
all the Artillery, Provisions, and Military Stores;  
are events, that must greatly Alarm all the North-  
ern Colonys; and fill them, with a concern that must

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<sup>1</sup> The defeat of General Braddock, July 9, 1755.

increase, as they consider ; that, it will greatly embolden, and strengthen the French ; and secure and encourage their Indians ; and proportionally dishearten ours. That, it lays the Inhabitants of several Colonys open, to savage depredations, which have been already begon, and will be continued, and increased. That, the French having nothing further to fear from that Army, will be at liberty, largely to reenforce their Garrisons at Crown Point, and Niagara ; and, thereby Defeat our Attempts against them. Should that be the Case, the Consequences must prove almost fatal to the English intrests in North America. Then, all those Indians who now waver in our interest ; will despise and forever forsake us : this will not only double the Number of our Enemys, but also lay our whole Country open to their Attacks ; even from Nova Scotia to North Carolina. When to this is added, the great danger of loseing our men, now in those services, with all their Provisions, and Military Stores : I am perswaded every man will be roused ; and exert himself to the Utmmost, to prevent the Distress, and Ruin, that at this Time so imminently threatens his Native Country.

In order to this, I must in the strongest terms, recomend to you, the raising as many more Men ; and taking every other Measure, in the Power of this Colony for effectually strengthening, and Supporting the Expedition against Crown Point : upon the success of which, the safety of the Colonys, and more especially those of New England immediately depend.

And, I hope none of you, will be the less in earnest in this Matter, becase this Colony might not be the

first, that would feel the dismal effects of a defeat: but, rather let all consider themselves, as Subjects of the same Gracious Sovereign; and member of the same general Society; which, it is equally the Duty, and Intrest of all to defend. Niether let any think, that expence can be burthensome; which is Absolutely Necessary, and duly laid out, in Preserving those invaluable Libertys, and Priviledges we enjoy: and in the defence of our Native Country, when it is in danger.<sup>1</sup>

STEP. HOPKINS

COUNCIL CHAMBER, Newport 11 of August 1755.

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COLONEL WILLIAM JOHNSON<sup>2</sup> TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

CAMP AT THE GREAT CARRYING PLACE<sup>3</sup> 20 Aug<sup>4</sup> 1755.

*Sir,*

Colonel Harris<sup>4</sup> is the Bearer of these Lines to Your Honour, he has applied to me for leave to go home in order to Sollicit for Cloathing and some other Matters relating to the Regt under his Command, and w<sup>ch</sup> I beleive will be found necessary to be sent them; Upon this Account, and as Lieut Colonel Cole<sup>5</sup> is a very active and agreable officer I have consented to Col. Harris going.

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<sup>1</sup> The Assembly, thus convened, "enacted that three companies of fifty men each, including officers, be raised, and sent by land unto Albany." *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 440.

<sup>2</sup> An Irishman, nephew of Sir Peter Warren, at first agent for Warren's estates on the Mohawk, later Superintendent of Indian Affairs. See note on p. 150.

<sup>3</sup> See note to letter of September 1, 1755.

<sup>4</sup> Colonel of the Rhode Island regiment.

<sup>5</sup> See note to letter of May 22, 1755.



The Great Variety of Business in w<sup>ch</sup> I am engaged will not permit me to be further particular, but Col Harris will inform You of those Matters w<sup>ch</sup> my time will not suffer me to do.

I am Sir

Your Honours Most Obed<sup>t</sup> hum serv<sup>t</sup>

WM. JOHNSON

Capt Wraxall who is my Sect<sup>y</sup> and Aid de Camp and Judge Advocate to the Troops, desires his respectful Salutations to Your Honour.

To the Honourable Governor HOPKINS.



RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO MESSRS. NICHOLS, CRANSTON, AND  
BOURS.

LONDON 8 mo. or Aug<sup>r</sup> 28. 1755.

*My Fr<sup>ds</sup> Jon<sup>a</sup> Nicholls Tho<sup>s</sup> Cranston and Peter  
Bours*

Yours dated 12<sup>th</sup> July I have duly rec<sup>d</sup> the 26<sup>th</sup> Inst. relating to the Marquis de Lambertye<sup>1</sup> &c<sup>a</sup> and the next day I went and communicated it to Sir Tho<sup>s</sup> Robinson Sec<sup>y</sup> of State, and when he read the letter, he intimated that he had known him formerly, and seemed to approve of the Seizure of the 2 Vessels you mention, that as to Lambertye whom I think he stiled a Count, as none of his Papers were sent

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<sup>1</sup> A vessel belonging to the Marquis de Lambertie put into Newport in June, and was seized and condemned by the court of admiralty, while the marquis was imprisoned until an opportunity offered of sending him to England. See the act of Assembly in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 423. M. de Lambertie could obtain no redress. Arnold, *History of Rhode Island*, II. 197.

over he did not apprehend they could do any thing to him, but intended to lay the Letter before the Lords of the Regency who are to meet the 2<sup>d</sup> of next mo<sup>th</sup> — and perhaps I may afterwards heare more about it, — L<sup>d</sup> Halifax was at the Sec<sup>y</sup> of States at the same time when I was there and very probably they might confer together about it, for before I was called in to Sir Thomas's Room I had acquainted L<sup>d</sup> Halifax of it and Shewed him your Letter who signified that the Ministry ought to be acquainted with it.

Sep<sup>r</sup> 3d. I was this day up at Whitehal on the Watch after the Marquiss De Lamberty and find he has been at the Sec<sup>y</sup> of States Office, I suppose about getting an order for the delivering up of his Ship and Cargo or the produce thereof which has been Condemned at Rhode Island and I hear that Affair was laid before the Lords of the Regency yesterday and was referd to the Attorney Gene<sup>l</sup>, whereupon I went to that Gent<sup>l</sup> Chamber and desired when the Reference came that I might have notice to attend before any Report be made (the Attorn<sup>y</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> himself being at his Country Seat) and I design to attend w<sup>th</sup> my Sol<sup>l</sup> accordingly in behalf of the Colony and Collector. but its pitty there was not sent me some further Instructions and Papers relating thereto.

No War is declared yet,<sup>1</sup> about which we are still in the dark, but the King I hear is to set out from Hanover for England the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. and when he arrives we Shall probably soon know what will be

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<sup>1</sup> War was not declared until May 18, 1756.

done in that respect — One of our Men of War has lately brought 4 French Merchant Ships into Portsmouth, but some think they will be set at liberty again; for the rest I refer to the Prints here inclosed and intend to write again per Cap<sup>t</sup> Rodman who talks of Sailing in about 4 days time. interim I rest

Your assured Friend

R.<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

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A SUMMONS TO THE SHERIFF OF KENT COUNTY.

COLONY OF RHODE ISLAND AND SOFORTH

*To the Sheriff of our County of Kent, or to his Deputy, Greeting*

Whereas the honorable Major General Johnson by a Letter dated the 24<sup>th</sup> of August from his Camp at the Great Carrying Place<sup>1</sup> hath advised that the French in and about their Fort at Crown Point may of themselves out-number the Army under his Command, that they make take Post and fortify themselves in some advantagious Place between him and Crown Point &c. which renders a Strong and Speed[y] Reinforcement absolutely necessary to enable him to perform the Service which the Army under him was raised for. And whereas his Honor the Governor of Connecticutt by a Letter of the 29 Ult. has advised Me that the General Assembly of said Colony upon his communicating unto Them Letters of the like Import had ordered Fifteen Hundred Men to be raised and added unto the Five Hundred which they had before raised as a Reinformcement unto the said General Johnson, And forasmuch as another Defeat from the French at the present critical Conjunction of Affairs will have a natural Tendency to Secure to themselves the Interest of the Indians and probably render all North America an easy Conquest unto

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<sup>1</sup> The carry between Fort Lyman on the Hudson (rechristened Fort Edward by Johnson in honor of one of the King's grandsons) and the headwaters of Lake George. There Johnson's men had an engagement with the French under Dieskau, on September 8, 1755. Johnson was made a baronet and given £2000 by Parliament.

the Arms of France and thereby reduce us unto the fatal Necessity of Sacrificing our Religious and Civil Liberties unto the Ambition of an Arbitrary Monarch whose Religion is not only Cruel but destructive of the Rights of Mankind

I have therefore thought proper by and with the Advice of such Members as I have had Opportunity to confer with upon this important Occasion to Summon a General Assembly.

These are therefore in his Majesty's Name to require you and you are required on Sight hereof forthwith to Notify all the Members of the General Assembly within your County living of the Premises and to Summon them to appear at Newport on Monday next then and there to deliberate and perform what further is necessary to be done by this Colony for the Service of his Majesty and the Interest of his People. Hereof you are not to fail but Return Make According to Law how you Conduct yourself in the Execution of this Precept.<sup>1</sup>

GIVEN under my Hand and Seal at the Council Chamber  
in Newport the first Day of September 1755. and in the  
Twenty ninth Year of his Majesty's Reign

STEP HOPKINS Gov<sup>r</sup>



RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO MESSRS. NICHOLS, CRANSTON, AND  
BOURS.

LONDON Sep 6<sup>th</sup> 1755.

*My Frd<sup>s</sup>. Jon<sup>a</sup>. Nichols Tho. Cranston Peter Bours.*

Since my last to you, of which inclosed is a Copy I have been again at the Attorney Generals, and got a Copy of the Marquis's Complaint to the Lords of the Regency, which I design to Send you here inclosed,<sup>2</sup> it was delivered in French, but I have got it Translated into English, and have had a Sight of the

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<sup>1</sup> The Assembly voted to send two hundred men to reinforce General Johnson. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 449.

<sup>2</sup> See the following document.

Order of Reference to the Attorney Gen<sup>l</sup>, wherein the Lords of the Regency directs, that as no Proceedings were come over from Rhode Island of the Tryal and Condemnation of his Ship, He sho<sup>d</sup> consider by what appears on the face of his Papers, what method must be taken for him to Appeal or to this Effect, to the best of my Remembrance.

And yesterday Sir Thomas Robinson, Sent to desire to Speak w<sup>th</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Car (as I Suppose) to enquire of him particularly, what he knows of this Case, and on the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, I intend to go thither with him having had a pretty deal of discourse with the Cap<sup>t</sup> before hand.

And then by Cap<sup>t</sup> Rodman next Week, I shall be able to give you a further acco<sup>t</sup> of the affair.

And in a few days I believe I Shall have Notice to attend the Attorney General, when I shall take my Solicitor with me in Order to defend the Proceedings of the Colony: but I don't apprehend any Royal Order will be made out 'till those concerned in the Colony be Served with due Notice to make their defence and Justify their Conduct.

I am Yo<sup>r</sup> Assured Friend.

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

I find Cap<sup>t</sup> Car can contradict flatly Some of his assertions, contained in his Memorial.

MEMORIAL OF THE MARQUIS DE LAMBERTYE.<sup>1</sup>

Memorial presented to His Excellency S<sup>t</sup> Thomas Robinson Minister Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in the Southern Department. By the Marquiss de Lambertye Chamberl<sup>n</sup> to his Majesty the King of Poland Duke of Lorain and Bar.

LONDON 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 1755.

*Sir,*

When I had taken leave of His Brittanick Majesty and his Ministers, and the Return of his Excellency the Duke de Mirapoia determined the Commission, with which the King my Master had Honoured me at this Court, I did not at all conceal the Project, I had formed with the Consent of his Most Christian Majesty of going to America as well to repair my Fortune as for Instruction by Travelling, that I might be in Condition again to Offer my Services to my Country, after profiting my Self of my leisure time in which I was out of all Employment, I did nothing as one may Say but pass thro' France Settle my affairs and Embarque for the Windward Islands, where I Stayed a Year. During my Stay there I employed my Self in Trade and went from thence in a Vessel of my own bound for Louisiana.

I was forced to Stop for Refreshments on the South Side of S<sup>t</sup> Domingo and there lost my Ship and her Cargo and the greatest part of my Slaves who perished in a Hurricane on the 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1754.

This Event determined me to wait on the Marquiss de Vaudreuil, who commanded for his Majesty the Leeward Islands.

The favourable Treatment I had from this Gentle-

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with letter of September 6, 1755.

man and my own necessary Repairs detained me with him till 14 May of this present Year, there I applied mySelf as before to Trading by Sea but Meeting with Misfortunes and very considerable losses chiefly owing to the bad Management of some Persons to whom I entrusted the care of my affairs, and willing besides to indulge my Taste for Travelling I put my Self on board a Vessell which I fitted out to go upon the Spanish Main in America, by a Series of Misfortunes and troubles, I was obliged as your Excellency will know to take Shelter in the first Port I co<sup>d</sup> make, and went into the Harbour of Rhode Island quite ignorant what Port it might be, Scarcely knowing that Such a Colony Existed. There I was Treated much more harshly then I sho<sup>d</sup> have been on the Coast of Barbary. Not Satisfyed with Seizing my Vessell Cargo and Effects of every kind they imprisoned my People and kept me in Confinement. There I was insulted and under constant apprehension of being torn to pieces together with my Crew by a furious Sett of People moved by the present disorders, which interrupt the Trade on their Coast, without the freedom of which, these Inhabitants wo<sup>d</sup> Suffer greatly.

The pretence for Seizing my Vessell was, illicit Trade, which they Supposed I came to carry on there, and without Proof or any appearance of Such Intention or even the least formality, except a hasty proceeding in a Corner at Ten Miles distance, they Condemned my Effects. Afterwards my Person was Suspected, and finding Some of my Papers relating to Publick Affairs in which I had formerly been

Employed, made them imagine I was come to New England with a Design to gain Intelligence, and afterwards to Form Some Enterprise against their Tranquillity, which being not at all confirmed by their reading my Papers, nor the Depositions of my Crew, which neither had nor co<sup>d</sup> have the Smallest Analogy with their Chimerical Suspicion, they returned my Papers after having Pillaged or Tore the greatest part of them. At length being more than ever enraged and unwilling to Seem to have done wrong, or to acknowledge it, they declared they wo<sup>d</sup> not Suffer my departure to any part of the World. I Demanded of them to send me to London in case they Suspected me, that Your Excellency might your self Judge of this affair, and be Satisfyed as to my Person and my Intentions, which I at last obtained after much trouble and Pains.

The Chief Men being thus incensed and the Populace quite furious, I Sir, every Moment exposed to the violent Outrages of a nest of Pirates, who acknowledge neither Laws nor Authority, In this Scituation did I pass a Month at Rhode Island.

I Shall have the Honour of Presenting to your Excellency my Defence with proper Vouchers of my Conduct, and the most notorious Instances of the irregularity of this Colony.

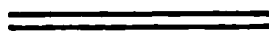
Whatever differences may have happened, between the two Nations, So long as War has not been declared on neither Side, their Ports I presume are open, to the Necessitous, and every Person agreeable to Treaties is intitled to the Protection of Foreign Powers.



But Suppose the Warr was kindled more fircely than ever, which God forbid; I have always Observed, that a Person of known Quality has been Treated with Distinction while he did not Transgress the Laws or particular Orders of the Country, and that he might live Undisturbed under the protection of those Laws, without being exposed to any injurious Treatment, unworthy of a Nation So respectable and generous as the English.

It is in consequence of the Experience I have had of that, I think my Self Authorized to expect the most Speedy and ample Justice.

I have not the Smallest Diffidence of your Excellencys Equity — And most humbly beg you to Examine, with Some Attention the clear Evidences of the Justice of my Cause and also the incontestable Proofs of the Injustice of that of the Colony of Rhode Island, which I shall have the Honour of Presenting to your Excellency as Soon as I have been able to Collect together the Materials I have brought with me for my own Justification.



RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO THE COLONY OF RHODE ISLAND.

LONDON Sep. 10<sup>th</sup> 1755

*My Fr<sup>ds</sup> Jon<sup>a</sup> Nicholls Tho: Cranston and Peter Bours*

Agreeable to what I wrote you last of the 6<sup>th</sup> instant,<sup>1</sup> I have been with Capt. Carr at S<sup>r</sup> Tho. Robinsons, as He wanted to Speak with the Captain to get

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<sup>1</sup> See the preceding letter.

what further information he could, relating to the Marquiss de Lambertye; The Marquis having been Solliciting for his Trunks of Cloaths &c. which were detained for his own and his four Servants Passages, and after Some discourse wherein the Capt. gave as clear an Acco<sup>t</sup> as co<sup>d</sup> be expected of Him, the Marquis came in also to us; And upon the whole S<sup>r</sup> Tho: proposed that his Things Should be delivered Him, and that upon the Appeal ag<sup>t</sup> the Condemnation of his Ship, when it came to be heard here, if it Sho<sup>d</sup> be confirmed, the said Passages which is charged together at 45<sup>l</sup> 3<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup> Sterl Should be paid out of the value of the Seizure, but if the Judgment should be reversed, then S<sup>r</sup> Thomas himself would take care, that the said Sum Should be deducted, and allowed out of the value of what was to be restored to the Marquiss; and that in the meantime, the Agent for the Colony Sho<sup>d</sup> pay the said Money for the Passage to the Owners of the Ship to clear them, and requested that I wo<sup>d</sup> do it, which accordingly as I Saw he earnestly desired it, I complied with, which was to his, and the Marquis's Satisfaction; and I have advanced and paid the Money to the Capt. and an Order has been made, for the delivery of them agreeable thereto. For S<sup>r</sup> Thomas intimated, that as the Case was Circumstanced, it was no ways proper for the Government here to interfere and pay the Money, in as much as there was no Evidence appeared of his being Sent over, as having been a Spy, or as a Prisoner, but that the Proceedings of the Tryal of this Ship, and Cargo had been at Law or a Civil Court in the Colony, and Con-

demned on the Navigation Act of the 7 and 8th of King Will<sup>m</sup> and as to the other Ship, I don't find yet the Marquis pretends to any Appeal or to lay any Claim.

In our discourse, I found that the Marquis owns himself a Subject of King Stanislaus, the Duke of Lorain and Bar, which Dukedom in case of a War between England and France, He says, will be Neutral, but that is doubtful, and he owns also, that His Prince has allowed him to be employed in the Service of France Sometimes, and I also perceived, that S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Robinson was acquainted with him formerly, and knew Some of his Relations.

As for the reflections relating to the uncivil Treatment he met with in Rhode Island, that was taken off by Capt. Carr, who Signified that it was quite otherwise, for that he had been well treated there, and like a Gentleman which then he could not deny before the Secretary of State, I have ret<sup>d</sup> the Attorney Gen<sup>l</sup> for us in case there sho<sup>d</sup> be an Appeal Granted, which will be attended with Expence, So that if it must be defended, I must have proper Instructions and Remittance. And it is to be Considered, if it be not Defended, the danger will be of an Order being granted *Exparte*, and large Damages given, for as I remember S<sup>r</sup> Thomas told us, that the Marquis had computed the value of his Ship and Cargo at ab<sup>t</sup> £3000 Sterl.

And S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Robinson desired me to write to your Government that the Marquis's Men may be all Set at Liberty, and Sent to Eustacia, that is Suppose if any Opportunity offered for that place, or

otherwise they might be at liberty to go where they thought fit. and now as I have actually paid Capt. Carr £45 3<sup>s</sup> for the Passages afores<sup>d</sup> (which I co<sup>d</sup> not well refuse to comply with, for the Honour and Reputation of the Colony, and which otherwise might have given offence); I have drawn a Bill on you together with the Collector for £50 Sterl. payable at 30 days Sight to Jos: Jacob in Bills of Exchange for Great Britain, which I make no doubt will meet with due Honour.

And at the Same time, when we were with S<sup>r</sup> Tho. Robinson, and having So good an Opportunity (for we were together an hour and a half) I delivered him a Duplicate of the Governors Letter, with the Profil of the Fortification relating to Cannon and Stores,<sup>1</sup> and also put [into] his Hand a fresh Petition, now to the Lords of the Regency, and earnestly requested his favour therein, my late Pet<sup>n</sup> before being to the L<sup>ds</sup> Committee of Council, on the footing of my former application, and I remain in Some hopes of Success, but cannot really depend on it. No War is yet proclaimed by the English or French that we here of, but it's Still almost daily expected, our Men of War have lately begun to take all the French Merchant Ships they meet with by way of reprizals, about 18 or 20 of which have been brought into our Sea Ports, for the rest I refer to the Magazine, and Prints herew<sup>th</sup> Sent, of which I desire your Acceptance, from

Your assured Friend

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

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<sup>1</sup> This letter was ordered written by the Assembly, in February, 1755. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 411.

4<sup>th</sup> Oct. No War is yet Proclaimed, about which we are Still in the Dark. The King arrived here at London the 16 inst.

Nothing is done in de Lambertye's affair yet, by the Attorney General, nor likely to be, till he comes to Town, about 3 Weeks hence; but the Marquis has Exhibited another Paper in French in behalf of De Valois, of which I have obtained a Copy from the Attorney Gen<sup>ls</sup> Office, and have got it Translated, which I send you here inclosed,<sup>1</sup> and keep also a Copy of both my Self.

Our Men of War continue their taking French Prizes, and its thought now that upwards of 150 Sail, have been brought into our Harbours;<sup>2</sup> On the other Hand the French have only taken one of our Ships (as we hear of for certain) which is a 20 Gun Man of Warr, with the New Gov<sup>r</sup> of So: Carolina on Board,<sup>3</sup> but have Since released both, and they are actually come back to England.

R P

TO STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island &c.  
Providence.

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<sup>1</sup> Not in the Archives.

<sup>2</sup> The English government instructed Admiral Hawke to take all French ships-of-war and merchantmen; letters of marque were issued, and by the end of the year three hundred French traders and seven or eight thousand sailors were brought into English ports. Lecky, *England in the Eighteenth Century* (ed. Appleton), II. 356.

<sup>3</sup> William Henry Lyttelton, a descendant of Sergeant Lyttelton, author of the celebrated treatise on English tenures. McGrady, *South Carolina*, II. 321.

RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON Octo. 4. 1755

*Gov. Hopkins,*

I having lately writ to the Comm<sup>ee</sup> of War on Some of the Affairs of the Colony I thought it also my duty to send thee a Copy of the Same w<sup>ch</sup> comes herew<sup>th</sup> whereto I refer thee, and a News Paper desiring thy acceptance of it. Notwithstanding my Endeavours hitherto in my applic<sup>ns</sup> to the L<sup>ds</sup> Committee of Council and also to S<sup>r</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> Robinson the Sec<sup>ry</sup> of State for Stores,<sup>1</sup> and tho' I earnestly pressd him as far as I dared I am now doubtful of Success, the Parliam<sup>t</sup> is to meet for Business 13 next Month, I hope my Bill of £150. Sterl is paid. I am w<sup>th</sup> respects

Thy assured Friend

R<sup>D</sup> PARTRIDGE

To STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island &c  
Providence

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO DEPUTY-GOVERNOR NICHOLLS.

LONDON Nov<sup>r</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1755.

*Jon<sup>a</sup> Nicholls Esq<sup>r</sup>*

My last to thee was of 4<sup>th</sup> Ult. since which I have rec<sup>d</sup> none of thy Favours, As to the Matter relating to the Marq<sup>s</sup> De Lambertie, it lays still as it did before the Attorney Gen<sup>l</sup> who has yet made no Report thereupon and when he will do it is very uncertain.

As for Publick News the Parliam<sup>t</sup> Assembled the

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<sup>1</sup> See the preceding letter.

13<sup>th</sup> Inst. for the dispatch of Business when the King came to the House of Peers and made a Speech to them which, I ordered to be sent with a Collection of News for the Month past to Gov<sup>r</sup>. Hopkins per a new Established Packet Boat via New York, and now I send thee the Lords Address with the Monthly Magazine of Octo<sup>r</sup> and News Papers via Boston to be forwarded to thee by my Correspondent A: Oliver by a private hand. It is expected that the State of the Northern Colonies, will come on before the Parliament pretty early particularly the Mollasses Act which expires this Sessions, about which I shall be on the Watch. Some alterations in the Ministry is begun to be made viz<sup>t</sup> S<sup>r</sup> T: Robinson has resigned his office as Sec<sup>y</sup> of State, and Henry Fox Esq<sup>r</sup> the late Sec<sup>y</sup> at War appointed to that office in his Room, and L<sup>d</sup> Barrington is now Sec<sup>y</sup> at War, and other Changes are talk'd of. We are Still at an uncertainty respecting War or Peace, yet our men of War continue taking the French Merch<sup>t</sup> Ships and bring them in daily, and Yesterday we had certain advice of a French Man of War of 74. Guns being taken on the Coast of France.

The Acco<sup>t</sup> of the late defeat of Gen<sup>l</sup> Braddock was to the Ministry and People here very Shocking, but the News now lately come of Gen<sup>l</sup> Johnsons Success in vanquishing the French in his March to Crown Point<sup>1</sup> has revived them and I hear a considerable Sum of money will be sent to New England (I suppose) for carrying on the War begun in the Colonies against their Enemies. I hope your Colony will consider me in paying my late draught to my Friend

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<sup>1</sup> See note to letter of September 1, 1755.

Gideon Wanton from whom I have had no advice yet of its being paid. We hear that L<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Ellison of Shirleys Army is reported to be Col<sup>o</sup> of S<sup>r</sup> Peter Halkets Regiment and Dan<sup>l</sup> Webb Esq<sup>r</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> of Dunbars Regiment, and the said Dunbar to be L<sup>t</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> of Gibraltar a Place of 40 s. a day, and Gen<sup>l</sup> Johnson is by the King created Knight and Barronet. I am  
Thy &c

R. PARTRIDGE

25<sup>th</sup> D<sup>o</sup> We had yesterday advice via France of a dreadfull Earth Quake and Fire at Lisbon on 1<sup>st</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> wherein were destroyed as its judg'd 100,000 People and the greatest part of the City; the King and Queen narrowly escaped.

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON Dec<sup>r</sup> the 16<sup>th</sup> 1755

*Gov<sup>r</sup>. Hopkins*

The foregoing <sup>1</sup> I writ to the Deputy Gov<sup>r</sup> Nicholls of 19<sup>th</sup> Ult. of which I here send thee a Copy as it generally related to the Affairs of the Colony to which I refer.

And now I have the Pleasure to acquaint thee That the Lords of Trade sent to me and the New York New Jersey and New Engl<sup>d</sup> Agents to attend them on the 3<sup>d</sup> Inst. to come prepared to lay before them the best and fullest acco<sup>t</sup> we were able of the Number of Men and Sums of Money raised within the said Colonies for carrying on the Expedition under the Command of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Shirley and Johnson, and accordingly all of us attended (except the

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<sup>1</sup> See preceding letter.



Agent for the Massachusetts who was not well) and we being before them Lord Hallifax acquainted us, "That the King was well Satisfied with the said Colonies who had exerted themselves in raising their Forces which they had done, and was disposed to grant them pretty soon a Sum of Money towards their Expence but did not mention how much the Sum would be, yet as that Matter would be referred to their Boards Consideration they were willing beforehand to be informed of the above particulars"; In order as I apprehend to adjust the proportion of the said Money to each Colony, whereupon we gave the best account we could, which they took down in writing particularly for Rhode Island 400 Men<sup>1</sup> and that as to the sum I signified I had no account of it yet, as the New Hampshire Agent had informed the Board of the Expence they were at for 500. Men the Charge of Rhode Island Men might be computed in Proportion but how the Money will be convey'd over to N: E: we are not yet apprized of: probably it may be sent to the Kings Commissaries at New York; Some People report as if the Sum to be granted will be £100,000. Sterl. in the whole but it is uncertain as yet to us, but it is to be understood it will be divided in Proportion among the said several Colonies from w<sup>ch</sup> the Forces of Shirleys and Johnsons Armies are composed, and I am told (be the Sum what it will) it is not designed to preclude us from a further Sum hereafter I am

Thy assured Friend

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

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<sup>1</sup> Rhode Island had put into the field 750 men. See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 419, 440, 449.

23<sup>d</sup> Ditto. I gratefully acknowledge yo<sup>r</sup> Assemblys honouring my Bill of £150 Sterl on the Gov<sup>r</sup> payable to Gid<sup>n</sup> Wanton Esq<sup>r</sup> for w<sup>ch</sup> he has remitted me a good Bill here of the same value and I shall Credit the Colonys acco<sup>t</sup> for the same.

Since I was at the Board of Trade aforementioned I have rec<sup>d</sup> advice from my Fr<sup>d</sup> Pet<sup>r</sup> Bours of 6<sup>th</sup> Octo<sup>r</sup> last intimating that yo<sup>r</sup> Colony had raised 300 Men more besides the 400 Men at first, and that they were then on their march for Crown Point, w<sup>ch</sup> advice came very opportunely for me to give notice of addition to the Lords of Trade as they had not precluded any Subsequent acco<sup>t</sup>, and therefore have accordingly sent them word of it in writing in order that we may get our full proportion for Rhode Island of the Money to be granted as aforesaid

R. P.

TO STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations.

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REPORT OF A SCOUT, BY CAPTAIN RODGERS.<sup>1</sup>

FORT WILLIAM HENRY 17<sup>th</sup> Decem<sup>r</sup> 1755

Went out by Orders with 3 Men to make discovery of the french and sd Strength of their forts at

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<sup>1</sup> Robert Rogers of New Hampshire, the famous partisan chief and scout. He raised several companies of rangers, and with them performed valuable service throughout the Seven Years' War. Rogers' Rock, on Lake George, commemorates the well-known tradition of the remarkable escape of the bush-fighter from the French and Indians by sliding down the precipice on his snow-shoes. This report is mentioned in letter of Sir Charles Hardy, February 29, 1756, and it is selected from the volume entitled *Letters and Papers relating to the Old French War*.

Ticonderoga or the Carrying Place the first day we went in a batow down the Lake gorge 16 miles and See a fire on an Island in the Middle of the Lake at the first narrows I durst not go by it and Came back about a mile and when it was dark Landed in a Cove on the Wist side of the Lake by the South End of the Great Mountain and when we had Secured our batow I went about half a mile from it and Campt in a Thicket next morning Steard for Ticonderoga and Travailed about Twenty miles and Campt in a Pleasant Place between Two large mountains and nothing Remarkable happend That day Next morning went on our Course and came in Plain Sight of Ticonderoga fort where were their men busy at work and had Several Saprits men Sawing on some of them, they was Shaving Long Shingles or Clab-bords To Cover their houses or Barocks in the fort we See four Cannon That was mounted on the Southeast Bastion Pointing towards the Lake there was Two Cannon at the Gate on wheels There was Two or Three Cannon on the Norwest Bastion Pointing Towards the Woods I tryed To number Their men but it was Endless, and to form a Judgment how many men there is at the Carrying Place I am at [a] Loss but Judg by their working at the fort and about it, There is five hundred men at Least and after we had a full view at Them we Left The hill or Emens [Eminence?] and went nearer to the fort and way-Layd a Road That Led from the fort to The Lake and after we had been There About half an hour More came along a party of 10 men but They being too many for us we Lay Still and Lett Them Pass

in a few minutes after There came a Company of Indians over from the East side Loaded with skins and Venison which soon after they had got into the fort begun to Sing and Dance, and about Dark There went five men after a Load of wood to the North of the fort upon Which we Left our Ambush and went Round to make a Shot upon them, but before we had got far Enough They had got Their wood Loaded and Returning to the Garrison we Tarried there till after their Drooms beat and heard Them Shut Their Gates Then we went into one of the hutts for Shelter from the Cold Intending to Try next morning for a Scalp but it Snowed very hard about day Which caused me to make a Sudden Retreat and went homewards That day 25 miles and Campt next morning we Steard homewards and when we came within 2 miles of our batow we Started a flock of Dear and killd 2 of Them and Drest Them with the utmost Expidition and Brought Them to our batow which we found safe and a bottle of Rum which we hid when we went up all Safe which Revived our Drooping Spirits: and we Embarkt and about 3 a Clock we arrived at Fort Will<sup>m</sup> Henry This is the Chief That I can Say Concerning Tyconderoga and a true Journal by your Honours Most Humb<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

ROBERT RODGERS

Witnesses Present was

NOAH JOHNSON

JAMES HENRY

To Coll<sup>o</sup> GLAISAR Comm<sup>dr</sup> at fort william Henry

NATHAN WHITING<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Sir*

As I have the honour to be intrusted with the Command of this Garison in behalf of the Several Governments concerned in maintaining it, I think it my duty to send your Honour the return of the forces that belong to And the State of the provisions and Military Stores In it; Accordingly you have them enclosed; I Likewise send an examination of a French deserter Who came Lately into the other fort, Which I took of him in his way to Albany, by Which you will have all the intelligence I can give of the State of the Enemy at Ticonderoge, Cap<sup>t</sup> Rogers was there about the time this deserter came Away, I hear he Imagined there was a Thousand Men there, but as I have not had his Report I cant vouch for the truth of it; I have sent frequent Scouts towards Woodcrick And South Bay, Who have never made Any discovery of Any Enemy. you are doubtless Acquainted that the Troops in this Garison are of Connecticut and New York that consequently I can give no particular Acc<sup>t</sup> of the State of the Troops of your Gov<sup>t</sup> I have Nothing farther material to Acquaint you of, but that I am with due Esteem

Your Honours most Obedient humb<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

NATHAN WHITING

FORT EDWARD January 1<sup>st</sup> 1756

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Whiting was lieutenant-colonel of the Second Connecticut Regiment, raised in 1755. In January, 1756, the Connecticut Assembly granted him £13 for his extraordinary expenses in garrisoning Fort Edward, and in March appointed him colonel of the Fourth Regiment, to go against Crown Point. *Pub. Rec. of Conn.*, X. 345, 450, 470.

GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

NEW YORK Jan. 2d 1756.

*Sir,*

I inclose your Honour a Scheme for an Attempt upon Tionderoge and Crown point to be made this Winter.<sup>1</sup>

I have fully and maturely consider'd it, and the more attentively I have thought upon it, the more practicable it appears to me, extraordinary Disappointments, as a long Succession of violent Snow Storms or unusual breaking up of the Ice in the Wood Creek<sup>2</sup> and River beyond it in the Month of February excepted; to some or other extraordinary unforeseen Disappointments, all Undertakings of this kind must be subject.

I believe it will be agreed, that if the propos'd Forces and Armament arrive safely at Tionderoge<sup>3</sup> and Land between that and Crown point, the Carrying of the Works, and securing of the French Troops at the former will, from the Acc<sup>t</sup> given of them in the inclos'd Report of Thomas Poor's, who is esteem'd by those, who know him, a very intelligent Officer and to be depended upon, be an easy Task,

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<sup>1</sup> See the enclosure which follows. By the death of Braddock, Shirley became commander-in-chief of the English forces in America. With a force of some 1400 men, he had, in the summer of 1755, pushed through western New York to Oswego, the English trading-post on Lake Ontario. From this as a base it was hoped to capture the French forts, Frontenac and Niagara. Both posts were too strongly reinforced to allow the English troops to venture upon so desperate an attack. Leaving 700 men as a garrison at Oswego, Shirley returned to Albany in October.

<sup>2</sup> A small but navigable stream, the usual route from the Hudson to the head of Lake Champlain.

<sup>3</sup> A promontory on the west shore of Lake Champlain, commanding both routes from the Hudson, that of Wood Creek and that by Lake George. Fortified by the French during the winter of 1756.

and take up a very Short time, perhaps not many Hours; and I think it extremely improbable, by all Acc<sup>ts</sup> we have had, that the French should have erected any Strong Works upon the Eminence, which commands Crown point, the making ourselves Masters of the former of which would probably be Soon follow'd with the Surrender of the latter; I can't see why the taking of Crown point<sup>1</sup> itself which is not above 16 Miles from Tionderoge, should be despair'd of.

As to the conveying of the Troops and Armament to Tionderoge in due Season, that Seems chiefly to depend upon collecting the number of Slays requisite by the second Week in February, and clearing the Wood Creek from Incumbrances above the level of the Ice, so as to give a passage to the Slays; which must be very practicable by a Party of 100 Men or less in a Day or two at furthest. The Portage or Carrying place at the Falls of the Wood Creek is not above 300 Yards, and as the Men will be transported in Slays, the whole Passage will not take up above Six Days, and but three of those at most between Fort Edward and Tionderoge; so that the Men, if provided against the Inclemency of the Season as propos'd. will not be greatly harass'd by this Conveyance to Tionderoge, and their Incampm<sup>ts</sup> in going to it; And upon their Arrival there, they will find good Cover ready for the greatest part, if not all of them from the Enemy's Works.<sup>2</sup>

The Forces, which are design'd to be employ'd to

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<sup>1</sup> North of Ticonderoga.

<sup>2</sup> Entrenchments were thrown up at this point by Dieskau, in the previous summer.

make the propos'd Attempts, if they succeed, will, I apprehend, be strong enough to hold either Tionderoge or Crown point 'till they are reinforc'd from the Colonies, especially as the French can't be reinforc'd by Water Carriage over the Lake Champlain, which at that time hath an Ice upon it, that will prevent it from being navigable, and not Strong enough to bear the Weight of either Stores, Provisions or Men, and by the time, that the Waters of it shall be open, our Vessell and Boats may enter the Lake, and command the Navigation of it.

The Train of good Consequences, which the gaining of Crown point or even Tionderoge this Winter by the propos'd Attempt would draw after it, by lessening the Expence and Difficulties, which an Attack of either in the Summer would be attended with giving Spirit and Vigour to every other part of the General Service in the ensuing Year; the Effect it would have upon all the Indians in general, retrieving the Reputation of the English Arms in North America, and lowering the presumption and Vaunts of the French, is too obvious to need being particularly observ'd on.

If it should be thought that the 40 Days provisions is too scanty a Stock for the Subsistence of the Troops 'till the Ice shall be broke up, it is highly probable that a Party of the Slays might make a second Trip upon the Ice with an additional Supply of Provisions before the Ice is broke up.

It is most evident, that the effecting this Service will depend upon each of the Gov<sup>rs</sup> concern'd, immediately upon receiving this Express, raising their



respective Quota's of good Men for it with proper Officers to command them, and fitting them out in time to rendezvous at Albany, by the first Week in Feb<sup>r</sup>, which I can't but hope will be comply'd with in the most ready and chearfull manner as the General Interest of all the Eastern Colonies in particular is so deeply concern'd in the Event.<sup>1</sup>

I purpose to set out from this Place for Boston on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> Instant.

In the mean time I can't omit expressing my thanks to your Honour for the very great Assistance I had from consulting you upon the Several parts of his Majesty's Service at Albany.<sup>2</sup>

I am with very great Esteem and Regard, Sir,  
Your Honour's most Humble, and most  
Obedient Servant,

W SHIRLEY.

P.S. I need not observe to your Honour how necessary it is to have this Scheme kept secret, except to the Assembly.

[Enclosure.]

*Proposal for an Attempt to be made against Crown point and Ticonderoge this Winter.<sup>3</sup>*

It is propos'd that 1150 Men, to consist of 950 Provincial Troops and 200 Regulars pick'd for the Service, with half the Company of Artillery and Engineers and a proper Train, should

<sup>1</sup> See Shirley's letter of February 2, 1756, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 473. The Assembly voted to send five hundred men, including those "now in the pay of this colony," "to reduce the French forts on Lake Champlain." *Ibid.*, V. 480.

<sup>2</sup> At Shirley's request, a conference of delegates from the colonies was held at New York to arrange a plan of campaign for the ensuing year. Governor Hopkins and Daniel Updike, the attorney-general, were appointed by the Assembly to represent Rhode Island. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 463.

<sup>3</sup> Enclosed with letter of January 2, 1756.

make an Attempt upon the French Works at Ticonderoge, and if found practicable to proceed from thence to Crown point, and make an Attempt upon that; the Troops to rendezvous at Albany the first week in February.

The Men with their Baggage and Provisions for 40 Days, the Artillery and Ordnance Stores to be transported from Albany to Fort Edward, and from thence to Woodcreek, and over that to Ticonderoge all in Slays, w<sup>ch</sup> may take up six Days.

The Provincial Troops to be provided with Tents, Blankets, Woolen Waiscoats, Caps and Mittens, two pair of Moggisons, and one pair of Indian Stockings each.

Each Colony to be at the Expence of the pay, Arms, Cloathing, Provisions, and Tents for their respective Troops, and pay for — Officers and Seamen to man the Vessells and Whale-boats hereafter mention'd.

The Crown to be at the Expence of 600 Slays, Horses, or other Carriages, and Ordnance Stores, and building one or more Vessells of Force sufficient to command the Navigation of the Lake Champlain, together with Whale Boats, all w<sup>ch</sup> it is propos'd shall be begun to be built as soon as Ticonderoge or Crown point is taken, and launch'd into the Water as soon as the Ice will permit.

The Provincials to be apportion'd as follows, Massachu<sup>ts</sup> Bay 300, Connecticutt 250, New York 200, New Hampshire 100, Rhode Island 100.

The Provisions, Great Artillery and Ordnance Stores, Snow Moggisons and Indian Stockings are already some at Albany, some at Fort Edward and others at Lake George.

One Commissary General of Provisions must be appointed for this purpose, and a Clerk appointed by each of the Colonies.

Endorsed :

Proposal for an Attempt to be made ag<sup>st</sup> Ticonderoge and Crown point this Winter.

RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON 2<sup>d</sup> mo. Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> 1756.*Gov. Hopkins*

My last to thee was of Dec<sup>r</sup> 16<sup>th</sup><sup>1</sup> since which I have had none of thy Favours. This now comes to acquaint thee that on the 28. Ult the King sent a Message to the House of Commons in the following words Viz: "His Majesty being sensible of the  
 "Zeal and Vigour with which his Faithful Subjects  
 "of certain Colonies in North America have exerted  
 "themselves in defence of his Majestys just Rights  
 "and Possessions recommends it to this House to  
 "take the same into their Consideration and to enable  
 "his Majesty to give them such Assistance as may  
 "be a proper Reward and Encouragement."

In consequence thereof the House of Commons have granted the Sum of £5000. to S<sup>r</sup> William Johnson as a Reward for his Services.<sup>2</sup>

And also resolved That £115,000 Sterling be granted for New York, New Jersey, and the Colonies of New England, to be distributed amongst them as a free gift and Reward for their Past Services and an Encouragement to continue to exert themselves with Vigour in defence of the Kings just Rights and Possessions;<sup>3</sup> That is as I am informed from Members of the House £20,000 for New York and New Jersey, and £95,000 for Massach<sup>n</sup>, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire in proportion,<sup>4</sup> to be

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 175.

<sup>2</sup> See note to letter of September 1, 1755.

<sup>3</sup> See *Parliamentary Register*, III. 263.

<sup>4</sup> Rhode Island received £6,684.12.3.

sent over in Specie very soon to America; and when they have collected the respective Accots of Expence, and times of Inlistments there, after its arrival the money to be distributed accordingly; as it was impossible to do it here, and I further hear it will be paid in Specie to the Respective Treasurers of each Colony.

And the Commons have since Voted £81.178.16. St<sup>r</sup> for the charge of a Regiment of Foot to be raised in America for 1756,<sup>1</sup> which Regiment as I'm inform'd is to consist of 3 Batallions of 4000 Men in the whole to be Commanded  $\frac{1}{8}$ <sup>d</sup> of them by Forreign Protestants who are to Act and Rank as Officers and Engineers in America mostly sent from Europe, and the Commander in Chief and other Principal Officers to be of Great Britain sent from hence also and some other Officers to be Commissioned in America. Lord Loudon a Nobleman of a very good Character is to be Commander in Chief<sup>2</sup> who with upward of 2000 Men including some Highlanders, are to be sent over to America now (as I suppose) with all Expedition for a further defence of the Frontiers there.

As for other Publick news the Affairs of Europe are still in a state of uncertainty, no War yet being declared by the French or English<sup>3</sup> but our own Men of War continue taking the French Merch<sup>t</sup> Ships as Prizes without a certain account of their having taken any of our Ships yet, except Seizing a

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<sup>1</sup> See *Parliamentary Register*, III. 263.

<sup>2</sup> See letter of Secretary Fox of March 13, 1756, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 485. '

<sup>3</sup> See note on pp. 154, 161.

few English Vessells of late that were in the French Harbours.

I am forced to conclude in hast to save this convey<sup>ce</sup> from

Thy loving Friend

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

I have not long since enquired at the Attorney Generals and find no further proceeding has been made in the affair of the Marquis De Lambertie

To STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Govern<sup>r</sup> of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

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GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

BOSTON Feb<sup>y</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 1756.

*Sir,*

I inclose to your Honour, at the Request of the Assembly of this Governm<sup>t</sup>, a Copy of their Resolves for raising 3000 Men as their Quota of 9000 for carrying on an Expedition against Crown point this Year in conjunction with his Majesty's other Colonies.

If the Circumstances of the Province would have admitted it, I should have urg'd them to increase the Number, but there were so many Men in Service the last Year in the two Expeditions East and West, and there are so many constantly employ'd for the Defence of the Frontiers, that it will be extremely difficult to make an addition to what has been determin'd; and indeed if the other Governments would raise their

Proportion, the whole would amount to as large an Army, as I should desire for this purpose; whilst the Men are raising I design that a sufficient Quantity of Provisions and Stores of every kind shall be transporting to Fort Edward and Fort William Henry,<sup>1</sup> and that the Battoes for the Carriage of the Artillery and Stores of War shall be ready for the Use of the Army, as soon as it shall arrive at the Lake; for the Success of the Campaigne will very much depend on our being ready for Action as soon as the Advances of the Spring will permit, and indeed we have no time to lose.

One very material part of the Plan propos'd at New York was the breaking up the French Settlements upon the River Chaudiere<sup>2</sup> and giving an Alarm to Quebec which must naturally retain a considerable Number of the French Forces on that side the Country; but this cant be determin'd upon 'till it be known what Forces the several Governments will raise: I hope Connecticut will furnish 2500 Men, New Hampshire and Rhode Island 1800 between them;<sup>3</sup> and altho' the Assembly of New York hath voted only 1000 Men, I can't but hope it will at least double the Number, when they shall be inform'd what the Massachusetts hath done, especially as New York Government, from its Situation and other Circumstances is more nearly affected by

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<sup>1</sup> Built by Sir William Johnson, in 1755, at the head of Lake George, and named in compliment to one of the king's grandsons.

<sup>2</sup> The portage between the Kennebec and the Chaudière (a tributary of the St. Lawrence, which enters that river a little above Quebec) was an entry into Canada of considerable importance.

<sup>3</sup> See note on p. 184.

the Incroachments of the French than any one of his Majesty's Colonies besides.

Suppose the whole Number, which I have computed, should be rais'd, it will fall short, your Honour knows, of what was propos'd in the Plan at New York.

As to the New Jersey Troops, they must be employ'd at Lake Ontario<sup>1</sup> or the Force there will be insufficient: Unless therefore the Governments Southward of the Jerseys shall assist with their Troops also,<sup>2</sup> I don't see how the 3000 Men propos'd for the Service at Chaudiere can be well spar'd.

I know your Honour to be well dispos'd to forward the Service, and I hope the Colony of Rhode Island will raise at least a proportionable Number of Men to that which the Gov<sup>t</sup> employ'd the last Year: The Massachusetts then propos'd in their first Levies 1500, Rhode Island then voted 400, so that I flatter myself your Assembly will not think 800 too large a proportion now, especially since his Majesty has been pleas'd to order such Strong Assurances to be given of his most gracious Favour to the New England Governments w<sup>th</sup> respect to a Reimbursement of the Charges of the last Expedition;<sup>3</sup> and I think that the Continuance of the same Vigour and Spirit in prosecuting the present Expedition will give us good Reason to hope for the same favour w<sup>th</sup> respect to this also; whatever Number shall be determin'd on, it will be necessary that your Government make full

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<sup>1</sup> In the proposed expedition against Niagara.

<sup>2</sup> Both Pennsylvania and Virginia refused to do so.

<sup>3</sup> See Partridge's letter of February 12, 1756.

Provision for that Proportion, of all the Charges that shall attend the Expedition. The failure of some Colonies last Year in the seasonable Transportation of their provisions and Stores tended as effectually to prevent the proceeding of the Army as if all had fail'd.

Some Companies of the first Rais'd Men in each Colony should be sent, as soon as possible, to Albany to serve as a Guard or Convoy for the Boats and Carriages, that shall pass from thence to the Fort at Lake George: The Battoes for all the Forces ought also to be compleated immediately, as there is no going forward without them; At least this Advantage is gain'd by the last Year's Expedition, that we may know what was wanting on the part of each Governm<sup>t</sup> then, and it will be inexcusable if there should be the same Neglect a second time.<sup>1</sup>

I must desire your Honour to give me the earliest Advice of the Determinations of your Assembly; and I must again mention to you, that the utmost Dispatch is necessary, and a Minute of time ought not to be lost.

I am with great Regard, and Esteem Sir,  
Your Honour's most Humble and most.  
obedient Servant

W SHIRLEY

P. S. I am to acknowledge the receipt of your Honour's letter the last Week.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The difficulties of transportation are graphically described in Parkman's *Montcalm and Wolfe*, I. 384-387.



GOVERNOR FITCH<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.HARTFORD Feb<sup>y</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1756*Sir*

As You have (I presume) some Time since, received from His Excellency Mayor General Shirley, the Plan of Operations advised to by the Council held at New York in December last, with his Letter relative thereto, as also the Proportions of the several Governments as proposed by Him, which is according to that agreed upon by the Commissioners at Albany, I am now by the Desire of the General Assembly of this Colony to acquaint You that according to General Shirleys Proposal, that in Case the southern Governments should not raise their Parts for this Service The northern Colonies should augment their Proportions, to make up the Number proposed, The Assembly of this Colony having had no Intelligence from the southward beyond New York, And it being uncertain whether they will raise any Men on this Occasion, have thought it best that the New England Governments, and New York, augment their Proportion to double the Number proposed, which will make up the Number of Ten Thousand, And have therefore agreed to raise, two Thousand five hundred in this Colony and expect the Massachusetts will raise three Thousand five hundred and New York Two Thousand. I hope therefore S<sup>r</sup> You will be pleased to use Your Influence with Your Assembly for that Purpose; The Assembly of this Colony have not made the necessary Provisions, for

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<sup>1</sup> Governor of Connecticut from 1754 to 1757.

raising the Men, but have adjourned till the 17<sup>th</sup> of March, that they may see whether these Proposals be agreeable to the other Governments, and that Wee may be further acquainted what Assistance wee may expect by Money from Home, without which as our last Years Expence has so involved us beyond our Neighbours Wee shall not (without extream Difficulty) be able to go on, But I hope when wee meet again shall be able to proceed, and if so, shall do it without Loss of Time.

I need not observe the Necessity of early Conclusions in these Affairs And of an harmonious Procedure among the Governments, And You will be pleased S<sup>r</sup> to favour Me with the Determinations of your Assembly as soon as may be.

I am S<sup>r</sup> (with great Respect)

Your Honours most obedient and most humble Servant

THO<sup>s</sup> FITCH

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> HOPKINS.



GOVERNOR SIR CHARLES HARDY<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

FORT GEORGE<sup>2</sup> NEW YORK 29<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup>. 1756

*Sir*

Inclosed I send you Copys of a Report of a Scouting Party under Cap<sup>n</sup> Rogers,<sup>3</sup> from Fort William

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<sup>1</sup> Governor Hardy's administration lasted from 1755 to 1757, when he was made Rear-Admiral and sent in the expedition against Louisbourg. In 1759 he returned to England. He was a grandson of the distinguished naval commander, Sir Thomas Hardy, who is identified with the reign of Queen Anne.

<sup>2</sup> At the southern extremity of the Island of Manhattan.

<sup>3</sup> See note to Rodger's Report of December 17, 1755.

Henry and the Examination of a French Prisoner taken by him by which your Honour will see the French are moving Troops and Provisions to Crown point and which Post they are also Strengthening with New Works.

I am sorry to find the Colonys delay taking the necessary measures for this Years Campaign, I have not yet received any advices from the Eastern Governments, that there Assemblys have made any Provision for furnishing the Quotas agreed upon at the Council of Warr held in this City and I fear if measures are not speedily taken, we shall be full late to hope for Success in the Expedition then agreed upon.

The Behaviour and good Services of Cap<sup>t</sup> Rogers Merits the Regard of the Colonys, Inclosed I send you a Copy of a Resolution of this Assembly, and must beg leave to recommend him to your Honours Favour.

Last Night I received an Express from Ulster County that a body of Indians supposed to be about 30. or 40, had crossed the Delaware and Destroyed the House, Barns &c, of one Phillip Swartwoudt, there were Eight Men and One Woman in the House, in endeavouring to Escape five of the Men were kil'd, the Woman taken Prisoner, and three Men escaped to a Neighbouring Settlement

I am Sir.

Your most Obedient and Humble Servant

CHA<sup>s</sup> HARDY

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> HOPKINS.

GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

BOSTON March 8<sup>th</sup> 1756.

*Sir,*

I shall send you herewith Copy of a Vote of the Assembly of this Province for raising an Additional Number of Men, provided the Government of Rhode Island and New Hampshire will raise One Thousand each.<sup>1</sup> I am well assur'd that your Honour will use your best Endeavour to bring your Assembly into it, and I doubt not the Governour of New Hampshire will press the same upon the Assembly of that Colony also. I have said so much in my former Letters upon the Importance of the Service that I need not add any thing further now, only that we learn by the Indians who come into Albany that the French are making great Preparations and I doubt not they will bring all the Force they can possibly muster to oppose Us.

I likewise Send your Honour Copy of Instructions agreed on by the Court for a Committee which is to proceed forthwith to Albany.<sup>2</sup> By these Instructions you will perceive the Plan which is laid for transporting Provisions and Stores to Lake George and providing Boats there for the Service of the Army. This Plan is entirely agreeable to me, and if faithfully executed I think the Colonies will Save half the Expence they would be at if they were to make use of Land Carriage only, and what is of infinitely more

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<sup>1</sup> Rhode Island did not augment her quota.

<sup>2</sup> Each of the four New England colonies sent to the scene of operations in New York a committee to provide and superintend all supplies and means of transportation, and to be responsible to the Committee of War at home.

Importance the Service will be performed in half the Time. I hope each Government will appoint Persons that can be depended upon to see this Service done. If there be a Failure here it must be fatal. I am not acquainted with the Number of Battoos provided by your Government the last Year, but the fewer you had then the more early must you be in your Preparations now and they must be built at the Lake<sup>1</sup> for I am sure Carriage can never be found for the Stores and Boats both : You will therefore provide a Number of Whip Saws for sawing Boards for the large Boats, for I doubt not proper Timber can be found for that Purpose, and Tools for making large Cannoos out of Logs if it shall be necessary to build any such as also Spikes, Nails, Pitch and Oakum, and let Workmen be sent away immediately. I can't be too urgent on these Points. Every Government must take Measures for their respective Porportion of these Services and if they are neglected or not duly attended by any one Government the Expedition may be ruined as effectually as if they had been neglected by all.

There must be a greater Stock of Ammunition, Artillery and Warlike Stores. I should be glad to be informed by the Return of this Post or sooner whether your Government can furnish their Quota of Powder for the great Artillery. I think the Army should be furnished for that Purpose with at least 500 Barrels more than now remains of what was pro-

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<sup>1</sup> Fort William Henry became a shipbuilding establishment, under the command of Colonel Jonathan Bagley.

vided for the last Expedition, and that every Soldier should be furnished with two Pounds besides for the small Arms. If you cannot provide the Cannon, Mortars Shells &c they may be sent from this Province, and perhaps you may furnish Powder in Proportion, otherwise Consideration must be had for what this Province does more than its Part when the Expedition shall be ended.

The Spring is advancing and We are all too backward in our Preparations. It seems necessary that the Forces should be at the Lake by the Middle of April and that every Article of Provisions, Stores and Boats should be ready against their Arrival.

I pray your Honour to give me constant Advices of the Steps taking in your Government relative to the Expedition.

The Commanding Officer of the Detachment of the Royal Regiment of Artillery employed in north America has furnished me with a List of Ordnance Stores necessary for the Expedition which I herewith send you.

I am with great regard and Esteem, Sir,

Your Honour's most Humble and most Obedt  
Servant

W SHIRLEY.

His Hon<sup>r</sup> STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON 3<sup>d</sup> mo: or Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> 1756*Governor Hopkins*

I wrote thee last of 12<sup>th</sup> Ult. since which I have not been favour'd w<sup>th</sup> any from thee. This may inform thee that the Money granted as a Gift by Parliam<sup>t</sup> at the Kings Instance to the Several N.E. Governments for their Encouragement is not yet Shipt off but I hear a Warrant<sup>1</sup> is made and for it and it's hoped will be sent away pretty soon.

The Bill brought into Parliament for Naturallizing Foreign Protestants Officers to serve in America is now passed the Royal Assent<sup>2</sup> the Number of whom is not to exceed 50 and Engineers 20, the rest of the Officers may be supposed (to be double the quantity) and of the Kings natural born Subjects of Great Britain and America, — And as to the Troops, it seems now to be concluded of having Twenty Thousand in America this Year including 2000 to be sent from Europe with the 3 Regiments of Shirleys, Pepperells and Dunbars, the rest to make up the Compliment to be raised in the Northern Colonies — and a New England Gentleman (the Agent for Nova Scotia) has contracted with the Government here for Supplying the said 20,000 Men with Provisions at £500. St<sup>g</sup> a day which I had lately from his own Mouth — and who it's probable will

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<sup>1</sup> See the following document.

<sup>2</sup> See letter of Secretary Fox to the Governor of Rhode Island, March 13, 1756, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 520.

set out for New York Speedily, perhaps with Lord Loudon who is to be Commander in Chief.<sup>1</sup>

There's no War declared yet by the French or English neither do we hear for certain that the former have taken any of our Ships at Sea yet; But our Men of Warr continue making Reprizals of their Ships still, and of late an Embargo is laid on our English Vessells, and as great a Press for Men as ever;

People here are in Expectation of an Invasion from the French but where the Storm will fall we know not, tho' others are of Opinion it is but a Feint of theirs to amuse Us in order to cover some other design they have in view which Time must manifest.

Nothing has yet been moved in Parliament relating to the Union of the Colonies,<sup>2</sup> I am with due Respects

Thy assured Friend

R.<sup>D</sup> PARTRIDGE

As there is a Packet Boat established to depart hence for N. York once a month I have agreed with a Book seller to send thee a Printed Sheet containing the Substance of a Months News at 12s. for half

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<sup>1</sup> Shirley was superseded in command, through the intrigues of a hostile faction of New York politicians, on March 13. Shirley was to hand over the command to Colonel Webb, who was to transfer it to General Abercrombie (second in command), from whom it should go to Loudoun upon his arrival in America. See letters in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 485, 520; and note to letter of November 8, 1742.

<sup>2</sup> The reference is to the Albany Plan of 1754, which met with no favor in Rhode Island.



a Year including the Postage outwards several of which I suppose thou mayst have received

R P

To STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

*Royal Warrant.*<sup>1</sup>

GEORGE R.

*Whereas* the House of Commons have granted unto Us the Sum of £115,000 upon Account to be distributed, to the Colonies, of New England, New York and New Jersey in such proportions as We should think fit, as a free Gift and Reward for their past Services, and an Encouragement to them to continue to exert themselves with Vigour in defence of Our Just Rights and Possessions.

*And whereas* We have thought fit to Allot the said Sum of £115,000 to the said Colonies in the proportions following, that is to say.

	£
To Massachusetts Bay	54,000
New Hampshire	8,000
Connecticut	26,000
Rhode Island	7,000 <sup>2</sup>
New York	15,000
New Jersey	5,000
	<hr/>
	£115,000

And are pleased to direct that the several Sums Allotted to the Colonies of the Massachusetts Bay New Hampshire New York, and New Jersey shall be delivered into the hands of the Governor of each of those Colonies in the presence of the Council, and to be by him forthwith paid over into the hands of the Treasurer of

<sup>1</sup> Enclosed in letter of March 12, 1756.

<sup>2</sup> See letter of Apthorp and Son of Boston to Governor Hopkins. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 533.

the Province, taking a proper Discharge for the same, and sufficient Security for the safe Custody of such Sum, until it shall be disposed of for the Publick Service, by an Act of the Legislature, And that the Sum destined for the Charter Governments of Connecticut and Rhode Island shall be consigned to the Governor and Company of each Colony, who are to give a Joint Receipt for the same under the Publick Seal of the Colony. *Our Will* and Pleasure therefore is That out of any the Aids or Supplies granted unto Us for the Service of the Year 1756 You issue and pay or cause to be issued and paid unto John Thomlinson and John Hanbury Merchants or to their Assignes the said Sum of £115,000. by way of Imprest and upon Account to be by them paid over, distributed and applied to the several Colonies aforementioned in the aforegoing proportions, and agreeable to the Directions and Restrictions herein beforementioned in that behalf. And for so doing this shall be your Warrant Given at Our Court at S<sup>t</sup> James's this 3<sup>d</sup> day of March 1756 in the 29<sup>th</sup> Year of Our Reign

To the Comm<sup>rs</sup> of Our Treasury.

By his Maj<sup>ty</sup> Command

HOLLES NEWCASTLE

G. LYTTELTON

H. FURNESE

Mess<sup>rs</sup> Thomlinson and Hanbury £115,000 for the Northern Colonies.



GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

BOSTON 16<sup>th</sup> March 1756

*Sir*

I have received your Honours Letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> Inst. I have already informed you that this Province hath augmented their Quota of Troops for the Crown Point Expedition to 3500 Men; I have since been informed by Gov<sup>r</sup> Fitch that the Colony of Connecticut have voted to raise 2500 Men as their Quota and

am in hopes the Province of New York will augment their Number to 2000, and must pray your Honour will urge your Colony to make up their Number to 1000 that we may have a Force sufficient to make sure of effecting what is intended.

The List of Ordnance your Honour sent me, I laid before the Committee of War here, they are quite willing that your Government do provide those Articles and forward them to Albany; whether they will amount to or exceed that exact Quota that Rhode Island ought to supply for the Ordnance Stores, may be settled hereafter.

I must beg leave to recommend it to your Honour to endeavour to prevail on your Committee to provide a Number of good Ox Teams either out of your own Government or out of Connecticut to be employed between Albany and Lake George and that they be sent thither as soon as possible with a Guard of about 200 of your Troops. the Waggon in the Province, we have in the last year experienced could not be depended on, and they are I am informed by Sir Charles Hardy in a much worse Condition now than they were then. Also that you would send a Number of Carpenters to be employed in building large flatt bottomed Boats at Lake George and Battoos to be employed between that and Albany.

I can't help repeating it to your Honour to press your Colony to augment their Number of Troops to 1000, and I am in hopes they will the readyer come into it, as we have such favourable hopes of a Reimbursement to the Colonies for their Expences, So

that any nice Scruples about its being their exact Quota or not, seems at present needless.

I am with great Esteem

Your Honours most Obedient Humble Servant  
W SHIRLEY.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

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GOVERNOR SIR CHARLES HARDY TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

FORT GEORGE NEW YORK 17<sup>th</sup> March 1756

*Sir*

I have the favour of yours of the 6<sup>th</sup> Instant Informing me of your Assembly's having Voted 500 Men for the General Service in the Expedition against Crownpoint, the Governments of Massachusetts and Connecticut have greatly increased their Quotas, and will no doubt expect the other Provinces concern'd, will do the same, on this Consideration I moved the Assembly of this Province to Augment their Forces, the Inclosed resolutions will inform you of their determinations upon it. As we have lately had our Western Frontiers Infested with the Delawares &c. we judge it necessary to employ 400 in Conjunction with the Neighbouring Governments for the defence of that part of the Province. But as we have reason to hope this matter may be Accomodated by the Interposition of the Six Nations,<sup>1</sup> I hope

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<sup>1</sup> The Six Nations were the subject of much anxiety. All through this winter Johnson had exerted his extraordinary powers of influencing them with the most unremitting assiduity. He was now Crown Agent and "Sole Superintendent of the Six Nations and other Northern Tribes." It was not until summer was well begun that he could venture to regard the Indians as the (at best, uncertain) allies of the English.

we shall be able to employ this 400 Men with the other Forces, this is the intention and meaning of the Assembly.

I fully agree with you with respect to the Chief Command of the Provincial Army, and should be glad the same Gentleman who had it last Year, would undertake it this, But I do not know if Sir William Johnson would accept of it, I have wrote General Shirley this Day, and have given him my opinion on this Subject.<sup>1</sup>

I shall use all Dispatch in raising our Forces, and in the mean time send the Provisions &c to Albany to be transported to Lake George

I am Sir

Your most Obedient and Humble Servant

CHA<sup>s</sup> HARDY

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> HOPKINS.

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COLONEL BEMSLEY GLEASIER<sup>2</sup> TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

FORT WILLIAM HENRY Apr. 1<sup>st</sup> 1756

*Sir,*

The 14<sup>th</sup> of March I received Orders from Gen<sup>l</sup> Shirley to Inlist as many Men for the intend'd Expedition against Crownpoint as I could, that now belong to the Garrison, Since that I have inlisted great part of them, the Gen<sup>l</sup> never made any distinction of Pro-

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<sup>1</sup> Shirley gave the command to John Winslow of Marshfield, Mass., who had raised and commanded a company in the Cartagena campaign, commanded a battalion in Monckton's attack and capture of Fort Beauséjour (1755), and assisted in the removal of the Acadians.

<sup>2</sup> Colonel Gleasier, or Glasier, was an officer of the British army and commander at Fort William Henry.

vinces but in general terms said get what Men you can to inlist, however I have not suffer'd any of the Recruiting Officers to inlist any of your Men tho' when we began I believe all would have inlisted, since that I have thought proper to give Messrs. Jencks<sup>1</sup> and Brown<sup>2</sup> Orders to Inlist as many of your Men as incline too, Inclosed I send you the preamble they inlist too. I don't know whether I have done right or no but am sensible of the difficulty of getting Men and knowing there times to be out the 30<sup>th</sup> of this Month thought it best to retain as many as I could in the Service, tho' I did not know what proportion of Men you are to furnish for the Expedition yet I am sensible it must be near 1000 as Gen<sup>l</sup> Shirley writes me 9000 is to form the Expedition and Massa. Bay furnish's 3000. I have lent your Officer's Money to pay the Bounty and should be glad to know your further Commands about it. I have promised they shall be in a Company Command'd by Capt. Whiting if he goes upon the Expedition as they all seem to incline to go with him.

I wish he could be spared to come up here as his furlow has been out some time, and by the Gen<sup>l</sup> Orders I was Obliged to send down 4 of the Capt<sup>s</sup> out of the Garrison, so that I have only two left, if any thing should happen I might be blame'd as the Gen<sup>l</sup> knows nothing of Cap<sup>t</sup> Whitings being being gone from the Garrison besides he is a Man I have great dependance upon as he his a very good Officer.

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<sup>1</sup> Ebenezer Jenckes was first lieutenant of Captain Richmond's company, enlisted in September, 1755.

<sup>2</sup> Joshua Brown, made second lieutenant of Captain John Whiting's company at Fort William Henry. Arnold, *History of Rhode Island*, II. 196, 198.

You have a Number of Small-Arms here which want to be put in repair if you could send up two or three Armourers they might fitt them up in a little time, I have none here or it shou'd been done before now, I have a Forge ready for them against they come up. Any thing you please to Order shall strictly be adheard too.

By Sir

Your Most Obed<sup>t</sup> Humb<sup>l</sup>e Serv<sup>t</sup>

B. GLEASIER

To the Hono<sup>ble</sup> STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup> &c

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON 4<sup>th</sup> mo. 6<sup>th</sup> 1756.

*Gov. Hopkins*

The foregoing is duplicate of my last to thee per Cap<sup>t</sup> Smith via Boston of 3<sup>d</sup>: Inst. to which I refer. This may now acquaint thee that the Money lately granted by Parliament to the 6 Northern Colonies was sent from hence in Waggons guarded with soldiers the 3<sup>d</sup> Inst. to Portsmouth and I expect will as [on] this day or to morrow be shipt on board the Sterling-Castle Man of War Capt Cornish of 70 Guns, and which will doubtless Sail the first fair Wind for Boston the part allotted for your Colony is £7 or £8000 Sterling in Silver and Gold put up in Chests of about 1000 oz or 1000 Dollars in a Chest marked Rhode Island on them if I'm rightly informed <sup>1</sup>— the proportion would not have amounted

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 533.

to so much had not my Friend Peter Bours<sup>1</sup> wrote me particularly what Number of Men at first were raised for the Expedition last year of 400; and also the Reinforcement of 300 Men afterwards which I gave account of to the Lords of Trade and in justice to him I write this as I had not acco<sup>t</sup> in Writing so particularly from any Body else.

I apprehended that it would have been most for the Colonys Interest to have had the Money remain here in the Exchequer or Treasury till it should be drawn for in Bills of Exchange because of saving Commission to the Shippers of it, Insurance of the Risque of the Sea and Freight, all which would amount to a considerable Expence besides coming at Your Money sooner too, and when the matter was under consideration in the House of Commons I got two considerable Members who were distinguished for their abilities in the House to insist upon it and which was done accordingly particularly by Alderman Beckford<sup>2</sup> who urged it very strenuously and that the Money should be sent over free of Turn Pike (as he Termed it) but yet the Ministry after all determined to send it over in specie, but then they have so ordered it that the Gentlemen who have been employd to Ship off the Money have agreed to do it Gratis, and the Expence on it at the Excheq<sup>r</sup> they have got off to about 1<sup>d</sup>½ per £ whereas the usual Charge is 6<sup>d</sup> per £ and the Cap<sup>t</sup> of the Man of War agrees to take it in at 1 per Cent which I under-

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<sup>1</sup> A Newport merchant who served on the Committee of War in 1755.

<sup>2</sup> William Beckford, a wealthy West India planter and London merchant, was Alderman of London in 1752, and M. P. in 1754. In 1762 he became Lord Mayor, and is remembered for his official connection with Wilkes and the "North Briton, No. 45" episode. He died in 1770.



stand is but  $\frac{1}{2}$  the usual price of the Freight: all which savings amount to at least 5 per C<sup>t</sup> on the whole and which I really apprehend was in great measure owing to the Endeavours I used by engaging the Members of the House as afores<sup>d</sup> the 5 per C<sup>t</sup> on £7000 amounts to £350 St<sup>s</sup> actually saved to Rhode Island, — nay whether the Government here will not pay the Expence of the Premium of Insurance also (without deducting it out of the Principal) I know not.

There has been lately a Bill drawn up and prepared to be brought into the House of Commons to exclude all Persons whatsoever from sitting and voting in the Assemblys of the N<sup>o</sup> Colonies but such as should take the proper Oaths to the King and Governm<sup>t</sup> which would have been a great hardship and Infraction on the Charter Governments; and had it not been for a Lord or two of Emenency in the Privy Council that was hearty Friends to our Society I am well assured it would have been brought into the House and possibly have pass'd (tho' not without opposition) but now it is postponed and lays as it may be said pro [word missing]

I am Thy loving Friend

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

Herewith is a Copy of my Memorial to the Lords of Trade.<sup>1</sup>

To STEPHEN HOPKINS, Esqr.

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

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<sup>1</sup> See the following document.

MEMORIAL OF RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO THE LORDS OF  
TRADE.<sup>1</sup>

*To the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations*

The Memorial of Richard Partridge Agent for the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England.

Humbly Sheweth That Some years since the said Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations directed your Memorialist to apply to the King, and to represent that they had built a Fortification at the Enterance of the Harbour of Newport their Principal Town which cost them upwards of £10,000 Currency, which was more at that time than £3000 Sterling and had purchased Twenty four Cannon for the same which cost between Six and Seven hundred Pounds Sterling all at their own Charge for their Defence against an Enemy. Whereupon your Memorialist did humbly prefer a Petition to the King Conformable thereto in behalf of the said Colony Signifying their request of being Supplied with twenty Cannons more from 18 to 24 Pounders, and a quantity of Shot for each Gun, which Petition was referred to the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations who after having your Memorialists Allegations in behalf of the said Colony did on the 14 of July 1735 make their Report that they were of Opinion it would be of service to the Colony if his Majesty would be graciously pleased to Grant their

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with letter of April 6, 1756. Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 521.  
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request, which Report is yet lying in the Council Office.

That upon further application afterwards made by your Memorialist to the then Lords Committee of Council they were pleased on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 1744<sup>1</sup> to referr the consideration of this affair to the Duke of Montague Master General of the Ordnance, and in case he had no objection thereto, then he should Cause an Estimate to be prepared of the Expence thereof, and Report the same to the said Committee.

That thereupon the said Master General of the Ordnance caused an Estimate to be made of the said 20 peices of Cannon with proper Stores appertaining Amounting in the whole to £1812.14.0 And on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 1744 a Report of the same was Signed by the Duke of Montague and sent to the Lords Committee of Council accordingly.

That the said Lords Committee did afterwards, viz: on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 1744 take into Consideration the Report of said Estimate, and made an Order that your Memorialist should write over for an Exact plan of the said Fort and when received to lay the same before the said Lords Committee of Council.

That your Memorialist did Write over to the Governor of Rhode Island accordingly<sup>2</sup> and received from thence a Plan of their Fortification,<sup>3</sup> which he laid before the said Lords Committee agreeable to their Order — But this matter notwithstanding your

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<sup>1</sup> See letter of October 12, 1744, and enclosure.

<sup>2</sup> See letter of February 6, 1744.

<sup>3</sup> See note to letter of September 10, 1755.

Memorialists endeavours (being delayed), nothing has ever yet been obtained in Consequence of the aforesaid application till a Peace was concluded.

That your Memorialist had lately received advice from the Governor of the said Colony dated April 17<sup>th</sup> 1755 intimating that as now again, they seem to be threatened with a War, and have been strictly Commanded by his Majesty to do every thing in their Power to put their Colony in the best posture of Defence they can, and that in obedience thereto they have ordered their Fortification to be repaired and enlarged; And have again directed your Memorialist properly to apply for such a Number of Cannon and stores of such sizes as may render their Fortifications compleat according to its enlargements now making and the said Governor hath also wrote to Sir Thomas Robinson Secretary of State thereabout and sent him a Compleat Plan of their Fortification. a Copy of the Governors letter thereupon is hereunto annexed.<sup>1</sup>

That the General Assembly of the said Colony have lately granted a Tax on the People of £10,000 Currency, and the Town of Newport in the said Colony £5000 more to be wholly appropriated to the repairing and enlarging the Fort.<sup>2</sup>

That Rhode Island is Situated about 70 Miles from Boston in the Massachusetts Bay and Separated from the Main Land only by a River of about 2 or three miles over and in case it should be Invaded in the Condition it is at present, it may become (as

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<sup>1</sup> See note of the Assembly directing these proceedings. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 411.

<sup>2</sup> See for Act of Appropriation, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 441.

it is conceived) an easy prey to the Enemy, in which Case they may Cross a narrow River and March an Army into the Heart of the Province of the Massachusetts.

And for that as your Memorialist has been lately advised from their Gov<sup>r</sup> Step<sup>n</sup> Hopkins Esq<sup>r</sup> of 10<sup>th</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup> last that in the late expedition undertaken for reducing Crown Point this little Colony has already Expended more than Fifteen Thousand Pounds Sterling, the whole of which Sum lies as a Debt upon it.<sup>1</sup>

Therefore in regard the said Colony as your Memorialist apprehends hath done and is now about doing, to the utmost they are able in building and repairing their Fort and formerly purchasing the said 24 Cannon before they would become Chargeable to the Crown.

Your Memorialist most humbly prays that would be pleased to advise the King to Grant the said Colony such a Number as may render their Fortification compleat from 18 to 24 Pounders with Shot for each Gun and other Stores suitable for them all which is humbly Submitted

R P

LONDON 4<sup>th</sup> month or April 2<sup>d</sup> 1756

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<sup>1</sup> £240,000 in bills of credit, known as Crown Point money, was issued between March and December of 1755. In October a tax of £80,000 was assessed for its redemption, and within two years it was all redeemed, part, however, for treasury notes, bearing 5% interest. In February, 1756, an emission of £8000 was made, and provision made for its redemption. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 481, 482. *Rider's Historical Tract No. 8*, p. 94.

RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON 5 mo. or May 7. 1756

*Gov. Hopkins*

My last to thee was of 6<sup>th</sup> Ult via Boston. this now comes via New York and serves to advise thee that the Money for the N<sup>o</sup> Colonies (of which £7000 Sterl is for Rhode Island) has been Shipt some Time since on board the Sterling castle Men of War in Specie, that she is yet lying at Portsmouth waiting to Convoy some Transport Ships bound to New York,

There is no War declared yet, the Topick of Conversation now is on the grand Expedition of the French with their Toulon Fleet against Minorca<sup>1</sup> where it is said they have landed 18000 Men and going to besiege Portmahone, — Admiral Byng is gone with a pretty Strong Squadron of Men of War to the Mediteraneum, but we have no advice yet of his getting to Minorca. As to the Invasion talkd of designd against this Kingdom or Ireland that altho' Preparation has been making for Defence there seems now to be little or no great Apprehensions here of any danger about it. The House of Commons has passed a Bill for Recruiting Forces in N<sup>o</sup> America which lyes now at the House of Lords, for the Royal Assent, but they have done nothing about a Union of the Northern Colonies, and they say the Parliament will rise in about two Weeks Time.

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<sup>1</sup> The garrison of 3000 men, under Colonel Blakeney, retired to the Castle, where they were besieged. An indecisive engagement took place off Minorca on May 20. Blakeney held out until June 28, when he was obliged to surrender.

Lord Loudon is not gone yet, but its expected he will depart in about 1 or 2 Weeks Time.<sup>1</sup>

As to your Affairs about Cannon and Stores, I understand the Lords of Trade have made a Report to the King in Council upon the Letter they lately rec<sup>d</sup> from thee, but they are under some difficulties about those Matters having been pretty much drained of Cannon that at present our Success is doubtful, but yet the said Lords of Trade are upon drawing up a Representation (as their Sec<sup>y</sup> informed me) of the State of the Northern Colonies in general with regard to their Case and Circumstance as to their Fortifications, and included Rhode Island amongst them, about which I intend still to continue my Care and if we are likely to have Encouragement thou mayst expect to be advised of it.

And now herewith I send my Acco<sup>t</sup> with your Colony the Ballance whereof is £89.16.6 in my favour — and as there may possibly be a further occasion to advance Money shortly I have presumed to draw a Bill on thee of this date for £100 Sterling at forty days Sight payable to Gideon Wanton Esq<sup>r</sup> which I doubt not the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly will enable thee to comply with. I am with due Respects to them and thy Self,

Thy assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

22<sup>d</sup> Ditto

Since writing the foregoing, War has been proclaimed here in London on the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst. against

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<sup>1</sup> He reached America in July.

France and here inclosed I send the Kings Declaration of it &c., but we dont hear yet that they have done the like in France tho' doubtless we shall be soon informed of it. As to the French Expedition aga<sup>st</sup> Minorca they have landed their Forces there and are beseiging Port Mahon where they are likely to meet with a Stout Resistance, yet probably they will take the place unless they are timely releived by Adm<sup>l</sup> Byng as mentioned in my above letter. The Sterling Castle Man of War is still at Portsmouth waiting to convoy some Transport Ships bound to New York with whom Capt. Johnson intends to sail also. all the French Prizes with their Cargoes now in the Custody of the English will probable soon be ordered to be Sold.

Lord Loudon went to Portsmouth a week since and its supposed he sailed in the Nightingal Man of War for N. York, ere this time and carried the Declaration of War with him.

I am Thy lo. Friend

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

I herewith send thee a Copy of a Bill prepared to have certainly been brought into Parliament which woud have greatly infringed the Privileges of the Charter Governm<sup>t</sup> but it has been happily Postponed for this Sessions.

To STEPHEN HOPKINS, Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations



GOVERNOR HOPKINS TO THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES.

*To the House of Deputies*

*Gentlemen*

At your last Meeting<sup>1</sup> I recommended to You the making some Addition to the Number of Forces heretofore ordered to be raised by this Colony for the present Expedition to reduce Crown point Fort &c to the Obedience of his Majesty. But as you did not think it seasonable to make any Augmentation at that Time: My Duty to his Majesty to my Country in General and to this Colony in Particular requires that I should again recommend that Matter to your Consideration and urge that You would at this Time order so many more Men to be raised in this Colony as when added to those already raised may make the whole Number equal in Proportion to those ordered by the other Colonies concerned in that Enterprise.

I herewith lay before You a Copy of a Law passed by the Province of the Massachusetts Bay for Governing their Forces in the Expedition above mentioned and recommend to you to pass some Act for the Government of the Forces sent by this Colony into that Service.

As the Money given to this Colony by the British Parliament is daily expected to arrive in America I must desire you to direct me in what Manner it shall be received and how appropriated

As the Estates of several Persons convicted of Counterfeiting the Bills of Credit of this Colony have

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<sup>1</sup> May, 1756.

been forfeited and are now ready to be appropriated I desire you to order in what Manner The same shall be done and whether the just Debts such Persons owed before Conviction shall be paid or not; if paid how and by whom and whether such Counterfeit Bills as may have been received by the Inhabitants of this Colony shall be redeemed out of such forfeited Estates.

I must also recommend to You the appointing proper Persons to audit the General Treasurer's Accounts, and that they be directed to examin what Interest Bonds remain unpaid and what Fines belonging to the General Treasury are detained, that some Method may be taken to collect such Monies as remain due on Them: and also that the Grand Committees Accounts be auditted

And as the Credit of the Colony and of all our circulating Bills of Credit wholly depends upon our keeping up punctually to our own Acts and sinking all our Bills according to the periods stated by the Acts for emitting them I recommend it unto You to make proper Provisions seasonably for those Purposes and for defraying the publick Expences of this Colony<sup>1</sup>

STEP HOPKINS

COUNCIL CHAMBER NEWPORT the Nineth Day of June 1756.

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<sup>1</sup> No additional troops were voted. For the action of the Assembly upon the other items in the message, see *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 496-498.

## GERARD BEEKMAN TO THE COMMITTEE OF WAR.

NEW YORK the 26 June 1756

*Gentlemen,*

I Received from Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Sheldon 3 hhd. Bread, one Cask sugar, One Cask w<sup>t</sup> Stocking and 41 Blankets, and Agreeable to Jon<sup>s</sup> Nichols Esq<sup>r</sup> Order,<sup>1</sup> have Sent them to M<sup>r</sup> Rufus Hopkins your Colonys Commassary now at Albany,<sup>2</sup> at foot you have Coppy of W<sup>m</sup> Gordon and W<sup>m</sup> Wallis Receipt for two Dollars Each, In part of their Pay it being for their Subsistance While in this place, Since which have not seen them, and believe they are gone home. you have not yet, agreeable to my request let me know When Your Troops are discharged from this Campaign and Return this way in the fall, wether I am to Supply them w<sup>t</sup> Provisions &c or not, untill they Can git a Passage to Rhode Island, This is Necessary as they all Call on me for Assistance and say they are so direct<sup>d</sup> by the Gentelmen Who give them their discharge, to which I beg your Answer and You<sup>l</sup> Oblige

Gentlemen

Your Hum<sup>e</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

GERARD G. BEEKMAN

NEW YORK June 11<sup>th</sup> 1756 Received of the Committee of War for the Colony of Rhode Island by the hand of Gerard G. Beekman Two Mild Dollors Each

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<sup>1</sup> Member of the Committee of War.

<sup>2</sup> See note on p. 195. Rufus Hopkins was the governor's son, and his was one of the appointments for which the administration was severely criticised by its political opponents.

in part of Payment of my Wages in the Colonys Service

W. GORDON  
WILLIAM WALLIS

Jonathan Nichols Esq<sup>r</sup> Lieut. Governor Thomas Cranston, Peter Bours Esq. and Others Committee of War, for the Colony of Rhode Island.

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GENERAL WINSLOW TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

ALBANY June 27. 1756.

*Sir*

Your fav<sup>r</sup> per Col<sup>o</sup> Harris was duly delivered me, the Contents I note. Inclosed you have a Return of the Troops<sup>1</sup> under my Command by which youl find we fall short of the Number proposed. By the return of Your Regiment I find that several in the last return and this Deserted before they join'd the Regiment. I am in hopes that all the Governments concerned in the Expedition will supply the full number agreed upon, and have returnd none but those on the Spot, but if this should not be the Case am determind to March the whole Body in all next Week to Fort William Henry, and hope to find things in such readiness there as not to detain me long when I shall put the Grand Plan in Execution.

Captain Rogers has been out on the Discovery and Reports that the French have quitted their Advanced Post on this side Ticonderogo, and at that

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<sup>1</sup> See enclosure.

place he judges the Enemy to be three Thousand strong. I am Sir,

Your most Obedient and most humble Servant  
**JOHN WINSLOW**  
 To Gov<sup>r</sup> HOPKINS.

[Enclosure.]

*Return of the Rhode Island Troops raised for the Reduction of Crown Point.<sup>1</sup>*

AT FORT WILLIAM HENRY.	FIT FOR DUTY AT HALF-MOON AND ALBANY.
2 Captains.	
1 Subaltern.	2 Captains.
54 Noncommissioned and privates.	5 Subalterns.
	53 Noncommissioned and privates.
AT FORT EDWARD.	
1 Subaltern.	INVALIDS.
6 Noncommissioned and privates.	1 Subaltern.
	48 Noncommissioned and privates.
AT SARATOGA.	
1 Subaltern.	BATTOING AND EXCHANGE DUTY.
21 Noncommissioned and privates.	1 Subaltern.
	48 Noncommissioned and privates.
AT STILL WATER.	
1 Captain.	
3 Subalterns.	TOTAL. <sup>2</sup>
55 Noncommissioned and privates.	10 Captains.
	15 Subalterns.
ON COMMAND.	437 Noncommissioned and pri- vates.
1 Captain.	
6 Noncommissioned and privates.	<b>JOHN WINSLOW</b>

<sup>1</sup> Enclosed in letter of June 27, 1756.

<sup>2</sup> The total number returned in July was 416.

LETTER OF MAJOR SAMUEL ANGELL.<sup>1</sup>

CAMP HALF MOON June 29: 1756

Sr

I received by Col Harris<sup>2</sup> Wherein You Inform me that the forces of Our Colony was marched and Stoores Sint as for the Latter Wee are in Want of Such as Tents kittles Bowls Cans and knapsacks. The Camp is in General helthy and the Worst Dis-temper that the People of Our Regim<sup>nt</sup> has is the Sperrit of Desertion for by the Last return Wee had 25 in that Collum. the more of that has happened for the Want of the retained men being formed in to Sum Companys Which I Expected When Col Harris Com Would have Been Prevented by his Bringing the Musterools Made Out but he tarrying a Longer time then Expected and then not Bringing them I thought Strange but know not Where the fault Lays, by these Men being Sent on So many Different Commands it gave them great Oppurtunity to Desert for the Want of Rools it is Impossible Wee Should know how many Men Wos Sent. I have Purposed to Col Harris to Order the Officers of Each Company to Return the Names of the Deserters that they May be Sent to the Com<sup>t</sup> of War but I Know not When he Will have it Done. William Reeder Is Deserted from My Company.

SAM<sup>LL</sup> ANGELL.

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<sup>1</sup> Major of the Rhode Island regiment sent to Crown Point in 1756.

<sup>2</sup> Christopher Harris, colonel of the Rhode Island regiment raised in February. See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 484.

GENERAL WINSLOW TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

ALBANY July 4<sup>th</sup> 1756*Sir*

Since My Last the Plan of Opperation is Settled for Our Present Campain. The whole of the Provincials are to Proceed Pass the Lake Enter into the Enemys Country and remove the French Incroachments as at First Designed. And General Abercrombie will Send Sufficient Forces of the Regulars to Posses the Post we now Occupie as we Go on and have a Number at Forte William Henry to assist or Sustaine us if Needfull, which I apprehend is a thing as Circumstances are the Best adapted Plan that Could be Lade as our People are So Averse to Joyne in Duty with the Regulars and The Generals have been so Good as to Gratify us in our own way. Which I hope will be Acceptable to your Hon<sup>r</sup>.<sup>1</sup>

The Commissioners Of the Several Goverments had a Meeting at My Lodging this Day when it was Concluded that for the removing our Ordenance Stores the Charge of the Portage should be Borne According to the Number of Men Proposed to be Sent from the Several Goverments and that to forward that Service, over and above One Hundred and Twenty one oxe Teams Now Employed, and to Firnish the Transporting Provisions, it would be Necessary that we have at Least 455 wagons Taken up for the use of the whole, The Maior of the City, Recorder And aldermen and Some other Magistrates were So Good as [to] meet us and assured [us] that

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<sup>1</sup> When Loudoun arrived, at the end of July, the plan of campaign was changed again. See Winslow's letter of July 27.

the Number Demanded Should be Procured and Compleated by Tomorrow weak and if More was Necessary would Provide them. So that I am [in] hopes we shall March the Day after and will Make our Tarry at the Lake as Shorte as the Nature of the thing will admit off.

We Lost Last week Lieu<sup>t</sup> Grant and Twelve Privates of the Connecticut Troops Either Kil<sup>d</sup> or Taken by the Indians by Suprise (an unfortunate Event of war). The Camp are in General Healthy and in Good spirits, but Little alteration Since Last return. Am your Hon<sup>r</sup> Most

Obedeant and Most Humble Servant

JOHN WINSLOW

P.S Should be Glad of More hands

To His Hon<sup>r</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> HOPKINS &c.

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON 7<sup>th</sup> mo (or July) 12<sup>th</sup> 1756

*To the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Rhode Isl<sup>d</sup> &c<sup>a</sup>*

I wrote last to yo<sup>r</sup> Deputy Gov<sup>r</sup> of 15<sup>th</sup> ult via Boston to w<sup>ch</sup> I refer, and now I am in hopes that the Sterling castle Man of War with the Money on board for the Northern Colonies (w<sup>ch</sup> I suppose sailed abo<sup>t</sup> 10 Day since) may be arrived at N. York ere this comes to hand, but if it should happen to miscarry as it is liable to do these troublesome Times, in as much as it is reported there have been sev<sup>l</sup> Fr: Men of War cruizing off Louisbourg, and the Money



being as I'm informed all insured here; I have been thinking it might be proper in that Case, that as soon as you hear of Such a Misfortune to send over to yo<sup>r</sup> Agent a prop<sup>r</sup> Power to receive the Money here that shall be recov<sup>d</sup> of the Insurance, couched in the Terms of some such written Authority as is herew<sup>th</sup> Sent thee to be Signd by the Gov<sup>r</sup> and Company of yo<sup>r</sup> Colony under the Colonies Seal, and then at the same Time to draw sund<sup>y</sup> Bills on the Agent, as money can be had there for them at 60. days sight, w<sup>th</sup> Lett<sup>s</sup> of advice, and as soon as the Money comes into my hands I shall be sure to hon<sup>r</sup> them to the amount of £6000 St<sup>r</sup> and the rest afterw<sup>ds</sup> as I shall advise about, not knowing what Failure may happen to some of the Insurers, or perhaps they may defer paym<sup>t</sup> for want of due proof of the Loss, w<sup>ch</sup> may be stipulated w<sup>th</sup> those who take the Bills to write to their Correspond<sup>ts</sup> to keep the Bills here a suitable Time in case there sh<sup>d</sup> be any delay of Paym<sup>t</sup> because of the Objections w<sup>ch</sup> probably may be made by the Insurers as afores<sup>d</sup>; this method I judg'd proper to recommend and leave to thy Consideration.

As to publ: News, There are Still apprehensions of a French Invasion design'd on this Kingdom, and great Prepara<sup>s</sup> are making here ag<sup>st</sup> what may happen in that Case. the Castle at Port Mahon holds out Still by the last acco<sup>t</sup> we have had about it:<sup>1</sup> and some People are ready to think now that the French will hardly take it at last. Some few of our Merchant Ships have been taken since the War has been proclaimed.

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<sup>1</sup> See note to letter of May 7, 1756.

I have lately been again w<sup>th</sup> Lord Halifax, and also with the Sec<sup>ry</sup> of State H. Fox Esq<sup>r</sup>. Soliciting for Cannon &c for yo<sup>r</sup> Fortifica<sup>n</sup>, but to little purpose, the first seemd to excuse him self in as much as the Board of Trade has done their part in making their Report to the King in Council, and the latter tho' he was also of the Privy Council was unwilling to medle in it alledging that a Grant of Money had already been made to the North<sup>n</sup> Colonies, meaning as I apprehend, that that sh<sup>d</sup> be a Means to excuse the Governm<sup>t</sup> here from granting what is the present Subject of our Solicita<sup>n</sup>, and indeed as the Public extra Expences on the present pressing Emergencies are so prodigious it is no great wonder at this Time so hard a Matter to get Money or moneys worth from the Treasury.

I am &c.

R P

8 mo. Aug<sup>t</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>.

The foregoing is Copy of my last to thee via Philad<sup>a</sup> since w<sup>ch</sup> I have rec<sup>d</sup> none of thy Favours. And now respecting further publick News we have certain Advice of Port Mahones being surrend<sup>d</sup> to the French by Capitula<sup>n</sup> after a long and vigorous defence; Adm<sup>l</sup> Byng is returned to Eng<sup>d</sup> being sent home by Adm<sup>l</sup> Hawk from Gibraltar in the Antelope M: of War w<sup>ch</sup> Hawk went out in who has now the Command of Byngs Fleet in the Meditera<sup>n</sup>, the latter on his arrival is put under arrest in ord<sup>r</sup> to take his Trial (as its supposd) for not doing his duty as he might have done in the late Engagem<sup>t</sup> w<sup>th</sup> the French Squadron.

Adm<sup>l</sup> Boscawen is yet lying off of Brest blocking

up the French Fleet in that Port, for the rest I refer  
to the inclosed Print and remain Thy Friend

R.<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE.

To The Governor and Company  
of the Colony of Rhode Island

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GENERAL WINSLOW TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

CAMP AT FORTE EDWARD July 27 1756

*Hon<sup>r</sup>.<sup>d</sup> Sir*

Yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> of July I rec<sup>d</sup> and finde that the Plan of Opperation that was Entered upon was agreable to your Hon<sup>r</sup> and I Immagine the Best that could have been Devised and Seams to be the opinion of the Several Governments.

But Since That things have Taken another Turn, for after I Thought all things were Compleat and I on my march from half Moon, I rec<sup>d</sup> an Express from Albany to repair there which I Did, and had a Meeting with General Abercromby—Sir Charles Hardy Sir Will<sup>m</sup> Johnston Col<sup>o</sup> Webb and Other Principal Officers. who Inform<sup>d</sup> me that they had Concluded to Send Forward Col<sup>o</sup> Webbs Regiment to Garrison this Place and the Fortes below it Forte Miller Excepted which they Sleight and when once our Stores are out I am of Opinion is Not worth a Keeping) One other Regiment is Gone Forward to Oswego, and a Junction Propos<sup>d</sup> between the others and us w<sup>ch</sup> I Donte Like half So well as the other Plan as it Seams almost Impossible that Such a Junction Can be made and the Libertys of the Pro-

vincials Kept up. I have Sir Sent you the Question Propos<sup>d</sup> at Albany with my answer.<sup>1</sup> and haveing refered it to all the Field officers in Camp and Forte. they have had it Five Days in Debate and are greatly Divided in Some parts of their answers. tho' Universally agree that be the Event what it will No Junction Can be Admitted off, Unless the Provincial Officers Hold their Proper Rank as we Look upon our Selves only as Executors in Trust for the Provinces have Sent you the Result and Protest Since my Last Some Days Since we had Three men kil<sup>d</sup> and Two Taken Prisoners in Sight of Forte William Henry. and yesterday Morning at Five o' the Clock within Sixty Rods of the Same Forte we had Two men kil<sup>d</sup> viz: Gideon Potter of Col<sup>o</sup> Angels Company and Charles Goff a Carter. Two other Men wounded our People Pursued and recovered about Twenty [illegible] and some Hatchetts but no Men.

We Two Days Since had three Deserters from the Forte at Carelong<sup>2</sup> alias Ticonderoga. who I have Examin<sup>d</sup> and Sent you w<sup>ht</sup> Is material in it, as also Inclose you a Return of our State

Am now Sir to Return your Hon<sup>r</sup> and the Government Mine and the Armys Sincere Thanks for the Care taken of us by ordering a Hundred Men to Joyne us<sup>3</sup> a Truly Laudable Zeal and worthy Immitation which I hope will Reach the Massachusetts and Produce Good Effects

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<sup>1</sup> An account of Loudoun's difficulties in ranking the provincials is in Parkman's *Montcalm and Wolfe*, I. 399, 400.

<sup>2</sup> Carillon.

<sup>3</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 500; also Hopkins's letter, *Ibid.*, p. 485.

Our Stores and things will Soon be at the Lake and if Not retarded for want of Boats Shall soon be in Motion Purpose to March for the Lake tomorrow with your Regiments Col<sup>o</sup> Rugles and one Other Massachusetts and one Connecticut to Endeavor to put an End to the Enemys Depredations

I am Sir with Great regard your very Humble  
Servant

JOHN WINSLOW

To The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> HOPKINS

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GOVERNOR FITCH TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

NORWALK 27<sup>th</sup> July 1756

*Sir,*

Having received from M<sup>r</sup> Barons Sir Charles Hardy's Secretary a Copy of Sir William Johnson's Letter to Major General Abercrombie giving a summary Account of the Conclusion of M<sup>r</sup> Johnson's Treaty with the Chiefs of the Shawanese and Delaware Indians, which M<sup>r</sup> Barons Desired me to communicate to you, I have inclosed a Copy of the Copy he sent me.<sup>1</sup> And Doubt not the agreable Intelligence will be accepted with great Satisfaction, I hope the affair will terminate not only for the general good but in Special for the releife of those particular parts where those Indians with others have Exercised

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<sup>1</sup> Johnson's letter is given in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 529. An interesting account of Johnson's work among the Indians during this trying campaign, and of this treaty with the Delawares, is in Parkman's *Montcalm and Wolfe*, I. 390-393.

such Extream Barbarity and Cruelties. I am Sir  
with much respect

Your Honours most Obedient and most humble  
Servant

THO<sup>s</sup> FITCH

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>



GOVERNOR DENNY<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

PHILADELPHIA 21 Aug<sup>r</sup> 1756.

*Sir,*

The Proprietors having done me the Honor, with the Kings Approbation, to appoint me the Governor of this Province, I take this Opportunity to inform you of my having published their Commission and taken upon me the Administration.

I shall be extreamly glad to embrace all Occasions of promoting His Majesties Service and the general Interest of the Colonies and as without an Union of Councils and a good Correspondence between the Several Governors little good is to be expected, I shall take the Liberty to communicate to you from time to time whatever Intelligence I shall receive, as well as the several Steps I shall take for the publick Service upon which I shall be obliged to you to give me your Sentiments which will always have a great weight with me.

I hope I shall be enabled to Act with Spirit at this Important Juncture when nothing less than the

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<sup>1</sup> Governor of Pennsylvania from 1756 to 1759.

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Preservation of this Province in particular and that of the Colonies in general is so nearly concerned.

It will give me a sensible Pleasure if in the course of my Administration I shall have it in my power to render you any Service. I am

Your Excellency's most Obedient humble Servant  
WILLIAM DENNY

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THOMAS STEPHENS TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Sir,*

Though unknown I take the Liberty of addressing you with this to inform you that tis the particular Desire of M<sup>r</sup> Partridge<sup>1</sup> who has always espoused my Undertaking that I wait upon you in Order to communicate any Thing that may promote the Manufacture of Pot Ash ; and that my Works here being now upon a good Footing I design my Self the Honour to wait on you the 2<sup>d</sup> of next Month in my Way South, and if you know of any one that wants my Advice or Assistance I shall be proud to Serve them and am with due Respect Sir

Your most obedient and very humble Servant  
THO<sup>s</sup> STEPHENS

BOSTON 4 Sept<sup>r</sup> 1756

To The Hon<sup>ble</sup> STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Governor Commander in Chief &c in Providence

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<sup>1</sup> See Partridge's letter of July 30, 1754, and note.

MAJOR SAMUEL ANGELL TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

CAMP FORT WM HENRY 5 Sep<sup>r</sup> 1756

*Hon<sup>le</sup> Sir*

I Received a Letter from Rufus <sup>1</sup> a few Days Ago Wherein he Mentions that the Com<sup>t</sup> of War Complains that they have no acc<sup>ts</sup> from any Officer in the Regiment Wat Wee Was Like to Do

as for Any Blame of that kind I must Beg Leave to be Excused, for Every time I had it in my Power I wrote to you the Best Intilegence that that I had but tru it is that I never Entred Into Particulars as there has Never Been but Little Certenty About Our Going forward or not and Remains So Yet

As the Express that Came to General Winslow from L<sup>d</sup> Loudon on the News of Oswego being taken <sup>2</sup> Ordered him to fortify Both forts and Camps as Strong as he Could and also Informs that he has Sent Expresses to all the Goverments and Ordred them to Rais as Many Men as they Could forth With and he Ordred the General not to think of Going forward as by his being Defeted it Might throo the hoole Country into Ruin at One. Wee have Certin news that they have Destroyed Oswego and Left the Place and it is also Said that they put all the Prisoners to the Sword Except 250 Carpen<sup>tr</sup>s and Saylor<sup>s</sup> if Such Usage Wont Rais the Sperrits and Warm the Blood of Old Olivers Sons I know not What Will <sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Rufus Hopkins, commissary at Albany, and son of the governor.

<sup>2</sup> Oswego was taken by Montcalm on August 14. See Loudoun's letter to Hopkins, of August 20, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 510, and the resolution of the Assembly thereupon.

<sup>3</sup> This report was not true. Some of the prisoners were butchered by the excited



I am hear With nigh half of Our Reg<sup>t</sup> Who are not Verry Sickley. Colonel Harris, Major Babcock and other Officers are at fort Edward With the Rest of the Reg<sup>t</sup> Verry Sickley, as is all the other forces at Fort Edward and Was before I came from there 18 Days ago.<sup>1</sup> it has Been Sickly and a Dying Time here but Seems to be Over and the People On the Recovery Wee have Little or no acc<sup>ts</sup> from the Enemy Except four Days Ago Capt Roger Brought in three french Prisoners a man his Wife and Daughter of ten year<sup>s</sup> Old from Crown Point, they Say there is 5000 Men at Crown Point and Cavilery besides Indans.<sup>2</sup>

Wee have not heard of an Indan or french man Seen Round Our Camp Or nigh fort Edward this Month Past. I heard that Sum of the Boston Rangers have begun to Pick hooles in Our Campain but Let these Studeous Enquirers that Say Wee are Only a Moth to the Country Say What Barior the french Would have from Coming throug Newengland Was it not for the forces hear and at Albany. And I belive that it is the Opinon of Most thinking Men that the Taking Oswego Will Promp them To Make A Tryal this Way Excep our Men of War being in the Bay of St Larrance Should Divert them that Way.

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savages, frenzied by the rum which fell into their hands at the time of the capitulation ; but the great body of men, women, and children were protected by the extraordinary efforts of Montcalm, who appeased his Indian allies by the most reckless promises, the fulfilment of which would, he asserted, cost the French king eight or ten thousand livres. Parkman, *Montcalm and Wolfe*, I. 413.

<sup>1</sup> The camps were ill-provided with necessaries, and badly managed. The mortality was great.

<sup>2</sup> Montcalm took post at Ticonderoga with 5300 men, and remained there, watching the provincials, under Winslow, at Fort William Henry, until the season closed.

it Seems by the Acc<sup>ts</sup> I had from hoo<sup>m</sup>e that Our People in General Was got Into a Sleepy Emagind Safty and had forgot the Last Sumers Allarm but I Expect this News of Oswego being taken Will awaken those Who have any knowled[ge] of the Consequence of that Place being Destroyed

I Rem[ai]n Your Most Obdent at Command

SAM<sup>LL</sup> ANGELL

My Respects [to] Judg Jenckes and his falely [family?] hoping friend[s] are Well

To STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

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GOVERNOR SHIRLEY TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

BOSTON Sept: 13<sup>th</sup> 1756

*Sir,*

I am extremely oblig'd to your Honour for your letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> of August by M<sup>r</sup> Howard, and am very sorry that I had it not in my power to let you know by his return the Resolutions of the Massachusetts Assembly upon Lord Loudon's letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> of August, w<sup>ch</sup> were not determin'd upon 'till 11<sup>th</sup> Instant; and I now let you know in my Circular letter.<sup>1</sup>

They have, I hear since; destroyed the forts upon the Oneida Carrying place, w<sup>ch</sup> they have abandon'd and retir'd to the German flats; I mean our forces

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<sup>1</sup> The letter of August 30 was evidently written upon the instructions of the Assembly. See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 510; and the "Circular letter" is one of date September 13, sent to all governors of northern colonies, stating that Massachusetts had voted to send 1600 men to the front, if necessary. This is in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 533.

have done this; But as I know not the Motives, can't Judge of the Affair.<sup>1</sup>

It will be certainly right to strengthen Lord Loudon, as much as is possible.

Our Governm<sup>t</sup> have agreed to take their Money of M<sup>r</sup> Apthorpe, as he can supply it, at the Exchange of 10£ Massachusetts Old Tenour for 1£ Sterling in order to save risque and charges of transporting it from New York to Boston; I have not time to inclose you the Copy of the Contract; w<sup>ch</sup> shall be done by next Post.

I have only time to assure your Honour of my most sincere regard and Esteem for you, and that I shall be glad to recieve your Commands in England<sup>2</sup> being with much truth Sir

Your Hon<sup>r</sup>'s most Obedient Servant

W SHIRLEY

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

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GOVERNOR HOPKINS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

*To the General Assembly.*

*Gentlemen*

The Bills of Publick Credit emitted by this Colony, and now circulating, which ought to be the

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<sup>1</sup> Webb, who had been sent with reinforcements to Oswego, was met at the Great Carrying Place which divided the water-shed of the Mohawk River from that of Lake Ontario, by the news that the French had captured both fort and garrison, and were advancing into New York. He retreated with great precipitation, burned Fort Bull, on Wood Creek, and Fort William, on the Mohawk, which guarded the portage, and retired to the Palatine village of German Flats, further down the river.

<sup>2</sup> Shirley was recalled to England by a letter of March 31. See his letter to Hopkins of July 13, 1756, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 531, and note to letter of November 8, 1742. He sailed in the latter part of September.

fixed measure of Property; are fallen so much into discredit, as to be extreamly injurious to Private Persons, and to the Publick Character of the Colony; and now greatly discourage, and soon must put a total Stop, to all our trade and Commerce, if some proper remedy be not found out, and applied by the General Assembly, to prevent so general a Calamity.

I therefore recomend it to you, to take this Matter into your Serious Consideration, and find out, and apply such remedy's, as may, if not wholly cure, yet in some degree Alleviate, so destructive, and so growing an Evil. To this purpose, it will be absolutely Necessary, to carry into execution, without any delay, the Vote already passed for Levying a Tax on the Inhabitants of the Colony. And whether it will not be much more effectual to the good ends Aimed at, that the Tax should be changed from what it now stands,<sup>1</sup> into Eight Thousand Pounds Lawfull Money, to be called in by it, and sunk agreeable to the emitting Act;<sup>2</sup> I must leave you to Consider and determine. Again, whether it would not have some good effect, on the Credit of our Old and New Tenor Bills, if the Tenths<sup>3</sup> were all Ordered to be paid in the same Specific Bills which were taken out by the Debtor.

Such intelligence, as I have received from the

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<sup>1</sup> The "rate" enacted was for £4000 "lawful money," to be called in and burnt. See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 507.

<sup>2</sup> This act authorized an emission of £8000 "lawful money." *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 481.

<sup>3</sup> Provision for the redemption of bills of credit was sometimes made by enacting that one tenth part of the whole loan should be redeemed each successive year for ten years. In Governor Ward's Report to the Lords of Trade on paper money in Rhode Island, he alludes to two such instances in the legislation of that colony, in 1728 and in 1740. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 9, 12. A committee was appointed in 1749 which was, among other duties, "to receive the money paid in for tenths, and to burn the same." *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 274.

English Army in America, and from Albany, I shall lay before you, and desire your further directions, concerning the Four Hundred Men lately raised.

STEP HOPKINS

COUNCIL CHAMBER, PROVIDENCE Octo<sup>r</sup> 28. 1756

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WILLIAM BAYARD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

NEW YORK November 19<sup>th</sup> 1756.

*Sir.*

Your Favour of the 27. Ultimo per your Son M<sup>r</sup> George Hopkins I duly rece<sup>d</sup>, Wherein Observe You have Sent him, in order to Receive the Moneys, Granted by Parliament, and Lodge in my hands for Your Colloney, with the proper Receipts Signed by Your Honour as Governour, By Virtue of an Act Passed by your Colloney for that Purpose,<sup>1</sup> Agreeable to which have Delivered him the Same, being Six Chest of Silver, and One of Gold, as You will find by the Account of the Same, Transmitted You from the Contractors, for which M<sup>r</sup> Beekman has paid me £11.9.6 being the Charges Attending the Bringing up Landing and Carting here, and in which Sum there is no Commission Charged by me for my Trouble, nor do I Expect any, but Shall at all Times be Glad when it is in my Power to be of Service to You or that Colloney and am,

Your Honour's most Obediant Serv<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>M</sup> BAYARD

To the Honourable STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 512.

NATHAN WHITING<sup>1</sup> TO THE COMMITTEE OF WAR.

NEW HAVEN Dec<sup>r</sup> 15 1756

*Gent*

I herewith Send you An Account of Some provisions and Clothing belonging to the Garisons of Fort W<sup>m</sup> Henry and Fort Edward, Which was put there Last Winter and made one General Charge off; by the agreement of Commissioners from the Several Governments, who Setled them Garisons;<sup>2</sup> As no one Commissary would have Any thing to do with them I thought it my Duty to take care of them for the Governments, Accordingly I delivered the provision to the Kings Commissary, and Lodged the Clothing in Suitable hands to take care of it till the Goverments make Some Settlement about it or give directions What Shall be done with it.

I have endeavoured also to take the best care of the Tents and Camp utensils belonging to each Government. you have enclosed an Acc<sup>t</sup> of those belonging to Rhode Island,<sup>3</sup> As well as Some Arms and other things, they were obliged to be Left, as Cariages Could not be Obtained at that time to bring them Down. you have also the Number of Sloops &c at the Lake

You will excuse me Gent. for taking the Liberty to Acquaint you that Governours Shirley and Fitch have done me the Honour to give me their Commissions for Quarter Master General of the Provincial Troops, I believe it was Aproved of by the

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<sup>1</sup> See note to letter of January 1, 1756.

<sup>2</sup> See note on p. 195.

<sup>3</sup> Not in the archives.

Principal officers of the Other Governments Who thought Such an Officer Necessary. As those of your Colony can Answer for Themselves I need only refer you to them. the Province of the Massachusetts have made an Establishment for Such an officer of ten pound per Month at Least their Quota of it, if you can find it has been Needfull, As I assure you it has been troublesome, and will do me the favour to use your Influence I may have Some allowance from your Colony.<sup>1</sup> I shall always Acknowledge the obligation. I am most Respectfully

Gent

your most Obed<sup>t</sup> and very humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

N WHITING

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Com<sup>tee</sup> War  
Newport

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LORD LOUDOUN TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF  
RHODE ISLAND.<sup>2</sup>

BOSTON Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1757.

*Gentlemen*

You must be very sensible, that the Measures taken the Last Years for the Preservation of his Majesty's Dominions and Colonies upon this Continent and for the Annoyance of his Majesties enemies have proved ineffectual, and instead of removing the French from any of their Encroachments, we have suffered them to make considerable advances upon

<sup>1</sup> No mention of such "allowance" appears upon the Assembly Records.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 15.

Us. I shall put you in Mind of some of the Proceedings to which I apprehend Your Misfortunes may be in a great Measure attributed

When I left London which was on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May the Ministry had received no Intelligence, of the Determination of any of the Governments, to prosecute an Expedition against Crown Point altho' this Determination had been made by the Massachusetts, the 16<sup>th</sup> of February, and I cannot account for this Neglect in those whose Duty it was to have given the Earliest Advice that might be. The Want of this advice rendered it impossible for Me, to receive any Orders with immediate relation to your Resolutions.

Upon my Arrival at Albany I found that your Forces fell very much short of the Number you had agreed to raise, and which you thought Necessary for the Service and from the best Information I could get the Troops in General were not equal to those which you always had employed on former Occasions, I could not therefore think it advisable for them to proceed without the assistance of part of his Majesties Regular Troops. I met with unexpected Difficulties, and was much retarded in settling the Connection between the Regulars and the Provincials<sup>1</sup> and before it could be fully effected and any Proceedings had in Consequence of it, I received the News of the Surrender of the Forts and Garrison at Oswego and all his Majesties Possessions upon the Lakes to the French The true state and Circum-

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<sup>1</sup> By a Royal Order of May 12, 1756, all general and field officers with provincial commissions were to take rank only as eldest captains when serving with regular troops. Parkman, *Montcalm and Wolfe*, I. 399.



stances of these Forts and Garrisons were never represented to Me by my Predecessors,<sup>1</sup> I had good reason to think that the Enemy flushed with Success would make an Attack upon the Provincial Forces. I immediately wrote to the several Governours and demanded an Aid suitable to the State of their Affairs, What success I had you very well know. There was in some of You a Profession of Readiness to afford assistance, and the shew and Appearance of it in the Votes of Assembly, but it turned out in Fact that the Attempts to carry those Votes into execution were defeated and proved ineffectual.

Some Time after I had applied to the several Governments for Aid it pleased God, that the Recruits from London and the High-Lands arrived, and I was able to collect a greater Number of the Recruits raised for the Royal American Regiment, than I had any hopes of being able to collect at that Season of the Year all which I immediately Joined to the Regular Troops and as Many of them as could be spared, I marched for the Strengthening and for the Security of the Provincial Forces

I have since received certain Intelligence that I was not mistaken in my Apprehensions of the Designs of the French and that it was the Accounts which they received from their Scouts and Spies, of the Actual March of the Regulars the Number of which was reported to be greater than it really was,

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<sup>1</sup> This is an attack upon Shirley, whom Loudoun censured severely, and with some reason, for the deplorable condition of the garrison at Oswego. In Shirley's behalf it may be said that he would doubtless have reinforced the half-starved troops long before the French made their assault, had he not been superseded by Abercrombie, who was in turn superseded by Loudoun, with the result that the reinforcements waited a month for marching orders.

which diverted them from the Resolutions which they had formed. What the Event of such an Attack would have been, God only knows, I was extremely anxious about it, and I have the greatest reason to think, that if it had been made upon the Provincials alone it would, have been followed with very fatal Consequences

Your Forces after this, by Sickness or Desertion or both was daily diminished, the Season was so far advanced that I had no farther Thoughts of any offensive Measures against the Enemy, and I determined that as soon as they withdrew, the Provincials should be dismissed, and that the Charge which the Several Governments were at for their pay should cease as soon as Possible.

This has been the State and Progress of your affairs the Year past, I hope Gentlemen, that under the Guidance and Blessing of Divine Providence the Plan of Operation for another Year will be better prosecuted.

I have devised a Meeting of your several Governments by their Governours and Commissioners at this Time in Order to their determining, what Number of Men they raise to be employed in Conjunction with his Majesties Regular Forces, the ensuing Year.

Considering the Vast Expense of suporting so Large a Number of Troops as are Employed by his Majesty for the Protection of his Colonies, the Burthen whereof you bear no part in, You cannot Think much of contributing so small a Proportion towards your own Defense as I now require of You, for could

I be assured of four Thousand good and effective Men, to be raised by the four Governments of New-England in such Proportion as you shall settle amongst yourselves I would not urge you to go beyond that Number.

I must recommend to You the giving better encouragement to your Officers, than you have formerly done which may be an inducement to Persons, who shall be equal to their Posts, and who will preserve Order and Discipline to engage in the Service, and I think if some part of your Men's pay, were converted into a Fund, to assist in giving them Necessary cloathing it would be of great Use.

The Particular Place or Service, in which I must employ these Forces, it is not in my Power to communicate to You, I wait for Answers to my Letters gone to England before [therefore?] I cannot fully determine upon it myself but if you were to wait until I receive them, before you proceed to raise the Men, it would be too Late to do it for the Service of this Year.

Besides Gentlemen, great inconveniences must arise from making my Design Publick, and I know of no advantage which can accrue from it, The Confining Your Men to any particular Service appears to Me to be a Preposterous Measure<sup>1</sup> Our Affairs are not in a Situation as to make it reasonable for any Colony to be influenced by its particular Interest. The Question is in what way and Manner the whole may be secured and the Common Enemy of all most effectually annoyed. This is the Point I must keep

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<sup>1</sup> This was the usual method.

in View and no Consideration will prevail with Me, to depart from it

You may depend on my Treating your Men with all that Tenderness and Indulgence which will consist with necessary Order and Discipline, and that I will employ them, whenever there shall be room for it, in such services as shall be most suitable to their Genius, and the way and Manner of fighting to which they have been used and that they shall be discharged at farthest, at the Expiration of the Term for which they are raised, and as much sooner as the service will admit but to engage that I will employ them in this or that particular Place only, it is what I cannot do upon any Terms, for I think it would be most Prejudicial to the Publick than the whole Benefit which we may expect from the Provincial Forces would countervail.

I do not thus express myself to You Gentlemen because I think it a Matter of but little Consequence whether you Afford me Aid or Not, No, I think it of such Moment, that you would never be able to atone for a refusal, I hope therefore you will spare no Time upon this Point, but will without delay, determine upon a Compliance with my Proposal to you, that so we may begin our Preparations this Year earlier than we have ever done before.<sup>1</sup>

LOUDOUN

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<sup>1</sup> See the letter of the Rhode Island Commissioners upon the procedure of the Congress of Delegates at Boston. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 28. The Assembly met on February 1, and voted to raise, clothe, and pay 450 effective men for the ensuing campaign, to serve for one year under Lord Loudoun. *Ibid.*, VI. 22.

RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON 2 month or Feb : 3. 1757

*Gov. Hopkins*

My last to thee was of 5<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>. Since which I have rec<sup>d</sup> no Letter from thee, all matters relating to your Colony here remain quiet as they have done for a considerable time past, but our Publick Affairs during the present Occurrences in America as else where have been so very discouraging and caused great uneasiness and complaints by the Populace against the great Personages in Power, that it has caused of late very considerable alterations in the Ministry, amongst whom L<sup>d</sup> Chancellor Hardwick, the Duke of New Castle, Henry Fox Esq<sup>r</sup> and Lord Anson have all resigned their places, and the D: of Devonshire is now first L<sup>d</sup> Com<sup>r</sup> of the Treasury, W<sup>m</sup> Pitt Esq<sup>r</sup> Secr<sup>y</sup> of State, and Lord Temple first Lord Com<sup>r</sup> of the Admiralty with other considerable Changes but L<sup>d</sup> President and L<sup>d</sup> Halifax and the Secr<sup>y</sup> at War hold their Places still — whether these alterations will be for the better Time must manifest.<sup>1</sup>

The Parliam<sup>t</sup> met the 2<sup>d</sup> Inst. and have granted a Considerable Sum for Provi[si]ons and Supplies for maintaining Forces and Garrisons in the Plantations, and its likely some vigorous Measures will be pursued in favour of the Northern Colonies early against

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<sup>1</sup> In October, 1756, Fox resigned, and Newcastle followed his example in November. In December a new ministry was formed, with Devonshire as Newcastle's successor, William Pitt in place of Fox, and Lord Temple at the head of the Admiralty. In the following April the king dismissed both Temple and Pitt, and in June the notable coalition ministry was formed, with Newcastle at the Treasury, Pitt and Lord Holderness as Secretaries of State, and Anson once more at the Admiralty.

the Spring, 70 Transport Ships its said are gone or going to take in Forces at Portsmouth or Plymouth to the Number of 8 or 10,000, and that it is likely they will be accompanied with a Strong Squadron of Men of War whether they are designed to land at New York or Bound directly for Canada we know [not] yet, — and Adm! West is lately sailed from Portsmouth with about 12 Sail of Men of War but their destination not made publick.

Adm! Byng has at length been tried by a Court Marshal and sentenced to dye, but on some circumstance appearing in the Course of his Trial he is by the Court recommended to Mercy.

The House of Commons in consideration of the present dearness of Wheat and flour in this Kingdom are about passing an Act for encouraging the bringing it in to this Kingdom from abroad by taking off the high duties here which at present subsist, and prohibiting the Exportation of Grain from hence, and also are passing an Act for prohibiting for a limited time the Exportation of Wheat, flour, Bread and provisions from our Plantations and Colonies in America except to Great Britain, Ireland or to some of the said Plantations,<sup>1</sup> for the rest I refer to the Magazine and prints sent per this Conveyance to Andrew Oliver Esq<sup>r</sup> of Boston to forward to thee.

and I remain respectfully

Thy lo: Friend

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE.

To STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations.

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<sup>1</sup> See Pownall's letter of March 7, 1757.

WILLIAM PITT TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF  
RHODE ISLAND.<sup>1</sup>WHITEHALL Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> 1757.*Gentlemen,*

The King, having nothing more at heart, than the Preservation of His Good Subjects and Colonies of North America, has come to a Resolution of acting with the greatest Vigour in those Parts, the ensuing Campaign; and all necessary Preparations are making for sending a considerable Reinforcement of Troops, together with a strong Squadron of Ships for that Purpose; And in order to act Offensively against the French in Canada.<sup>2</sup>

It is His Majesty's Pleasure that You should forthwith call together Your Council and Assembly, and press them, in the strongest Manner, to raise, with the utmost Expedition, a Number of Provincial Troops, at least equal to those raised the last Year, for the Service of the ensuing Campaign, over and above what they shall judge necessary for the immediate Defence of their own Province, and that the Troops, so raised, do act in such Parts as the Earl of Loudoun, or the commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces, for the Time being, shall judge most conducive to the Service in general. And the King doubts not, but that the several Provinces, truly sensible of His Paternal Care, in sending so large a Force for their Security, will exert their utmost En-

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 39. Pitt was Secretary of State from December, 1756, to April, 1757.

<sup>2</sup> Loudoun suggested an attempt to take Louisbourg, which, it will be remembered, was returned to the French by the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, in 1748. Pitt accepted the suggestion.

deavours to second, and strengthen such Offensive Operations against the French, as the Earl of Loudoun, or the Commander in Chief, for the Time being, shall judge expedient; and will not clogg the Enlistments of the Men, or the Raising of the Money for their Pay, &c.:, with such Limitations, as have hitherto been found to render their Service difficult and ineffectual; And as a further Encouragement, I am to acquaint You, that the Raising of the Men, their Pay, Arms and Cloathing, will be all, that will be required on the Part of the several Provinces, Measures having been already taken for laying up Magazines of Stores and Provisions of all kinds, at the Expence of the Crown.

I cannot too strongly recommend it to You, to use all Your Influence with Your Council and Assembly for the punctual and immediate Execution of these His Majesty's Commands. I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

W. PITT.

Gov<sup>r</sup> and Company of Rhode Island.

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JOHN POWNALL<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

WHITEHALL, March 7<sup>th</sup> 1757.

*Gentlemen,*

I am directed by the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations to send you the inclosed Act passed in the present Session of Parliament, inti-

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<sup>1</sup> Secretary to the Lords of Trade, and brother of Thomas Pownall, who was appointed lieutenant-governor of New Jersey and (1757) succeeded Shirley as governor of Massachusetts.



tuled, "An Act to prohibit for a limited time the Exportation of Corn, Grain, Meal, Malt, Flour, Bread, Biscuit, Starch, Beef, Pork, Bacon, and other Victual (except Fish and Roots and Rice to be exported to any part of Europe southward of Cape Finisterre) from His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in America, unless to Great Britain or Ireland, or to some of the said Colonies and Plantations; and to permit the Importation of Corn and Flour into Great Britain and Ireland in neutral Ships; and to allow the Exportation of Wheat, Barley, Oats, Meal and Flour from Great Britain to the Isle of Man for the Use of the Inhabitants there";<sup>1</sup> and am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

J POWNALL

Governor and Company of Rhode Island

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J. OSBORNE<sup>2</sup> TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

BOSTON April, 2<sup>d</sup> 1757.

*Sir,*

You may remember that the 16<sup>th</sup> July last, we had your favours, wherein you proposed to Us, that as we had fixed a Currier to Ride, between here and Albany for the carrying and bringing Letters to and from Our Army, that if you might Improve him for that purpose in behalf of Your Government, you would pay your proportion of the Charge. Accordingly we now send you an Acco<sup>t</sup> of what is reason-

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<sup>1</sup> See letter of February 3, 1757.

<sup>2</sup> John Osborne was for many years a member of the Council of Massachusetts.

able for you to Pay, which is as follows — Paid Stephen Gunn for Riding from the 20<sup>th</sup> July, when you began, to 20<sup>th</sup> December following 22 Turns at £6 L Money is £132 —  $\frac{1}{8}$ <sup>th</sup> part is £22 — which Sum of £22 please to order Payment to your Honours very humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

In the Name of the Com<sup>tee</sup>

J. OSBORNE

P. S. Our whole Acco<sup>t</sup> for Gunn's Riding came to £220.6 L. Money.

The hon<sup>ble</sup> STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Gov<sup>r</sup> of Rhode Island.

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CHRISTOPHER KILBY<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

NEW YORK 4<sup>th</sup> April 1757.

*Sir*

You are hereby desired to furnish three weeks Provision for the Rhode Island Forces for their Passage to Albany<sup>2</sup> viz. Pork 4 lbs a man a week, Bread 7 lbs Beans or Peas 3 pints or half that quantity of Rice in lieu thereof besides half a pound of Rice a week and six ounces of Butter, or one specie of equal value in lieu of another, you will be pleased to make

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<sup>1</sup> Kilby was a prominent Boston merchant, who was sent by Massachusetts to England in 1741 to petition for a rehearing of the Rhode Island boundary case, and remained until 1756, when he accompanied Loudoun to America in the capacity of "agent-victualler" of the army.

<sup>2</sup> Loudoun was collecting the colonial forces at New York, to embark them for Nova Scotia. See note to letter of February 4, 1757. The Assembly had directed that the Rhode Island troops should be ready to march on March 25 (*Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 34). On April 12 orders were sent to Governor Hopkins to send the men by water. *Ibid.*, VI. 41.

the Supply exact without depending upon a Short Passage, as a week or ten days over stock may be made use of after their arrival before they have recourse to the Victualing Office at Albany for a further supply, and 'tis not improbable but they may Land and Tarry a few days either below or above Albany to avoid the Small Pox. For the cost of these you'll be pleased to reimburse yourself by Bills upon M<sup>r</sup> Leonard Jarvis Merchant in Boston giving him previous notice thereof, which I apprehend will be paid in Dollars or other Specie, the benefit thereof you'll be pleased to be attentive to in the Purchases made at Rhode Island. I am Sir

Your most humble Servt.

CHRIS. KILBY.

The Honble STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

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PETITION OF SAMUEL WARD<sup>1</sup> TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

*To the Honorable the General Assembly of his Majesty's Colony of Rhode Island &c now sitting at Newport*

The Petition of Samuel Ward of Westerly in Kings County Merchant humbly sheweth that Stephen Hopkins Esq<sup>r</sup> late Governor of this Colony did write a certain piece and cause the same to be

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<sup>1</sup> Ward represented Westerly in the Assembly, and was from this time the leader of the Newport faction in the Rhode Island political battle known as the Ward-Hopkins controversy. The most concise and lucid account of this passage at arms is that given by Mr. C. S. Brigham in Field's *State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations*, I. 199-204, 206-213. See also Foster's *Life of Hopkins* (Rider's *Historical Tract No. 19*).

printed and published which (in your Petitioner's Opinion) reflected great dishonour upon many Members of the lower House of Assembly; that the Petitioner being one of that House, and therefore concerned to vindicate its Honor, did write and publish an Answer to M<sup>r</sup> Hopkins, for which that Gentleman hath commenced an Action of Defamation against your Petitioner laying his Damages at twenty thousand Pounds.<sup>1</sup> According to the Tenor of the Writ this Action is to be tried at next Providence Court; in which place your Petitioner does not think there is the least Probability of his having any Thing like a fair and impartial Tryal and being informed that his Life is threatened, if the Plaintiff should not obtain Satisfaction in the Law, he humbly prays that the hearing and trying the said Action may be removed from Providence to some other County where your Petitioner may with safety appear and where there is a Probability of such a Tryal as is the Birth right of an English Subject. And your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever Pray

S WARD

NEWPORT May 7<sup>th</sup> 1757.

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<sup>1</sup> The opponents of Governor Hopkins (candidate and leader of the Providence faction) had made many charges against his official career. In March, 1757, Hopkins issued a pamphlet defending the questioned acts of his administration, in the hope of eliciting a reply from the rival candidate for governor, William Greene. The cudgels were taken up by Ward, who published an answer in April that was felt to be a determining factor in securing Greene's triumph in May. Thereupon Hopkins brought an action for damages, as above stated, and hence Ward's petition.

May 7<sup>th</sup> 1757.*To the House of Mag<sup>rs</sup>**Gen<sup>t</sup>*

Resolved that this petition be referred to next Sessions of Assembly and that the adverse Party be served with a Copy of this Petition and cited to appear at next Sessions<sup>1</sup> to answer the same and that all further Proceedings in the within mentioned Case be stayed till next Sessions of this Assembly

Voted and past

per Ord<sup>r</sup> J. LYNDON Cler

Read the same Day in the Upper House and concurred

By Ord<sup>r</sup> THO WARD SecretaryA true Copy duly exam<sup>d</sup>

Witness THO WARD Secretary

COLONY OF RHODE ISLAND AND SO FORTH.

*To the Sheriff of the County of Providence in said Colony or to his Deputy Greeting*

You are hereby required in the King's Name to serve the within named Stephen Hopkins with a Copy of Samuel Ward's Petition agst him with the Votes of the Upper House and the Lower House of the General Assembly thereupon as the same are copied upon the other Side [of the sheet] and above. You are also required to cite the s<sup>d</sup> Stephen Hopkins

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<sup>1</sup> The next sessions was in June, and the action of the Assembly upon Ward's petition, together with the agreement to transfer the case to the Massachusetts courts, is in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 68, 69. A verdict was given for the defendant. Hopkins appealed, and the case dragged on to September, 1759, when the suit was withdrawn, Hopkins paying costs.

to appear at the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly of the Colony afore-  
said to be holden at Newport on the Second Monday  
of June next to answer the said Petition if he shall  
see Cause. Hereof fail not but make Lawful Return  
of your Doings in the premises.

Given under my Hand at Newport the Eleventh  
Day of May 1757 in the thirtieth Year of his  
Mag<sup>ty</sup>'s Reign

THO WARD Secretary

PROVIDENCE May 27. 1757

Agreable To The Request above To me made I  
have Cited The Hon<sup>le</sup> Stephen Hopkins To Appeare  
at The Time Appointed

ALLIN BROWN Sheriff.

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 5 month or May 19<sup>th</sup> 1757

*To the Gov<sup>r</sup>. and Company of the Colony of Rh<sup>d</sup>  
Island &c*

My last to the Gov<sup>r</sup> of said Colony was of 1<sup>st</sup> ult  
via Boston to which I refer, — The Parliam<sup>t</sup> is now  
almost at the Conclusion of the Sessions which its  
thought will be about 28<sup>th</sup> Inst, and I dont remember  
any very material matter has been done therein re-  
lating to the Northern Colonies Saveing the Act for  
importing from our N<sup>o</sup> Plantations Bar Iron duty  
Free into any port of this Kingdom,<sup>1</sup> and granting

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<sup>1</sup> See *Parliamentary Register*, III. 290, 291.

the King Supplies for the present Exegencies w<sup>ch</sup> are considerable.

The War with France continues, but the Spaniards are Neuter Still:—Adm<sup>l</sup> Holbourn w<sup>th</sup> 14 or 15 Sail of M. of War of the Line sailed the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst from Cork for Halifax w<sup>th</sup> 55 Transport Ships, and since that we hear a Fleet of French M: of War Sailed from Brest for N<sup>o</sup> America the 3<sup>d</sup> Instant, so that its thought the latter have got the Start;<sup>1</sup> all which probably ye may be advised of 'ere this reaches thy hands. There came advice yesterday that the King of Prusia had gained a victory in a late Battle with the Austrians, which doubtless will be a great mortification to the Empress Queen and to the French.<sup>2</sup> for the rest I refer to the Magazine and News Papers now sent to And<sup>r</sup> Oliver of Boston to be forwarded per a private hand of which I desire thy acceptance from

Thy Friend

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

Wheat holds up its price Still at about 8/ a bush<sup>l</sup> and fine Flower 18 to 20/ a bbl they begin now to import wheat from the East Country.

To The Governor and Company  
of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence  
Plantation

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<sup>1</sup> Three French squadrons were sent to America with orders to rendezvous at Louisbourg. The greater part of these reached that harbor in July. Loudoun, with 12,000 provincials, reached Halifax June 30. Holbourne and his fleet appeared by July 10. It was not until August 4 that the English learned that twenty-two French ships of the line were in Louisbourg harbor, and that the fortress was garrisoned by 7000 men. Success was hopeless. Loudoun returned to New York.

<sup>2</sup> The battle of Prague, May 6.

GENERAL WEBB TO GOVERNOR GREENE.<sup>1</sup>

ALBANY June 9<sup>th</sup> 1757

*Sir*

Your favor of the 10<sup>th</sup> of last Month I am to acknowledge, and should have answer'd sooner but that the hurry of business I have till now been in has prevented me.

Should his Majesties service require a reinforcement of Troops from the different Colonies, I shall apply to you for the Quota rais'd by your Province, and doubt not but they will be in readiness to march at the shortest Notice.<sup>2</sup>

As the Forces belonging to the Rhode Island Government now here, are not supplied with a Surgeon or Armourer, I flatter myself I need not urge to you the necessity of their being provided with both by the first opportunity, his Majesties Service, as well as the Interest of the Colony demanding an immediate compliance therewith.

Inclos'd I have sent you the particular description of four Deserters from the 3<sup>d</sup> Batallion of the Royal Americans, who are suspected to have gone to Rhode Island ; you will I make no doubt should you get any intelligence of such being there do every thing in your power to apprehend them, and acquaint me thereof.

Col. Angel<sup>3</sup> having inform'd me that the Troops rais'd by the Colony of Rhode Island, were promis'd

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in part in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 71. Webb was left in command at Fort Edward while Loudoun with the greater part of the troops sailed for Halifax.

<sup>2</sup> In May the Assembly had voted to send, upon demand, 150 men to the assistance of the commanding officer. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 51. This act was repealed in August. *Ibid.*, VI. 81.

<sup>3</sup> Colonel Samuel Angell. See note to letter of June 29, 1756.



some indulgencies such as Rum Molasses &c., I cannot help thinking that the neglect of supplying them therewith according to promise may occasion a discontent amongst them, that may be attended with bad consequence, but shall leave it to your own judgement to determine, I am Sir with great regard  
your most obedient and most humble servant

DAN. WEBB

W<sup>M</sup> GREEN Esq<sup>r</sup>

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GENERAL WEBB TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

FORT EDWARD August 12<sup>th</sup> 1757

*Sir*

as several of the men of each province are become Prisoners of War by the loss of Fort Will<sup>m</sup> Henry, and are under articles not to serve for the space of eighteen months, I must beg you will immediately on the receipt of this lay before the assembly of the Province the necessity of furnishing the number of men requisite for filling up the deficiencies in the forces first granted by the said Province as appears by the inclosed return<sup>1</sup> by Drafts from the Militia; as the necessity of this demand will I flatter myself be sufficiently apparent to the gentlemen of the assembly, I make no doubt but it will be immediately comply'd with I am Sir

with great regard your most obedient and most  
humble Servant

DAN. WEBB

Governor GREEN

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<sup>1</sup> See enclosure.

[Enclosure.]

A Return of the present Strength of the Rhode Island Regiment Com-  
manded by Colonel Angell

FORT EDWARD Aug<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1757.

OFFICERS PRESENT			EFFECTIVE RANK AND FILE
COMMISSIONED	STAFF	NON-COMMISSIONED	
1 Colonel 5 Captains 9 Lieutenants 5 Ensigns	1 Adjutant	19 Sergeants 9 Drummers	265 fit for duty 27 sick 6 on furlough 4 on command
			Total 317
SINCE LAST RETURN		WANTING TO COMPLETE THE ESTABLISHMENT	
8 died and missing 6 deserted		77 rank and file	

NB, the 6, Rank, and file, returnd upon Furlough, are 6, that are returnd from Fort W<sup>m</sup> Henry since the Capitulation, and are gone home.

1 of the 8 men return'd dead or missing, was at the Siege of Fort W<sup>m</sup> Henry and has not been heard of since.

DAN. WEBB Major General



GOVERNOR POWNALL<sup>1</sup> TO SIR WILLIAM PEPPERELL.

BOSTON Aug<sup>r</sup> 13 1757.

$\frac{3}{4}$  after 12 noon

Sir,

I have just now reciev'd Your Letter and the Packet You forwarded, I have sent the inclos'd

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Pownall, who succeeded Shirley as governor of Massachusetts.  
VOL. II.

orders<sup>1</sup> to all the Regim<sup>ts</sup> that have Troops. I am endeavouring to form a Field Train. I send this by L<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Murray whom I must Recommend to Your Honour for his Services. He comes to assist you in the matter of Provisions. I must desire you will form a magazine at Springfield. If the Enemy should approach the Frontiers You will order all Waggon West of Connecticut River to have their Wheels Knock'd and to Drive the said Country of all Horses, to order all Provisions that can be brought off and what cannot to destroy. and you will recieve this as my order not to Execute but in Such Case of necessity and then not to fail to do it.

[No signature.]

Endorsed : Gov<sup>r</sup> Pownall's Letter to Sir W.<sup>m</sup> Pepperell L<sup>t</sup> General of the Province.

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON Octo<sup>r</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1757

*Gov<sup>r</sup>. Greene*

The last Letter I wrote directed to the Gov<sup>r</sup> and Comp<sup>a</sup> of your Colony was of 7<sup>th</sup> month or July the 11<sup>th</sup>. Since which I dont remember to have had any from Gov<sup>r</sup> Hopkins. This may acquaint thee that notwithstanding all the Endeavours used to obtain the Stores for your Fortifications it has not produced the desired Effect; inclosed is Copy of my Petition

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<sup>1</sup> The orders are printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 85.

to the King in Council<sup>1</sup> lodg'd about 2 months since at the Office of W<sup>m</sup> Pitt Esq<sup>r</sup> lately appointed Sec<sup>y</sup> of State to be laid before the King wherein I have had the assistance of Cap<sup>t</sup> Joseph Harrison, and besides he was so kind as to use his Interest with some eminent Persons about it, and I had him up with me to Rob<sup>t</sup> Wood Esq<sup>r</sup> head Sec<sup>y</sup> under the s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Pitt at his Office to Speak to the Matters of my Petition which he did from his own knowledge, But Lord Halifax resigning his Office at the Board of Trade and the unsettled State of the Ministry for Some Time with other publick occurrences of great Importance were such Obstacles, that it seemd impossible to get forward in our Solicitation, and indeed I have been told as much or to that effect at the Sec<sup>y</sup> of States Office, but yet I intend to follow it still while there is any the least Prospect of Success. Lord Halifax who resigned his Place as first Commiss<sup>r</sup> of the Board of Trade as afores<sup>d</sup> is now reinstated again so that its likely Business at the Plantation Office will be revived as heretofore w<sup>ch</sup> for some time has been at a Stand and the Ministry seems to be fixed as per my afores<sup>d</sup> Letter of 7 month the 11<sup>th</sup>.

Respecting other publick News the French continue in Possession of the Electorate of Hannover still, and the Duke of Cumberland shortly expected home since the Neutrality or Convention has been agreed on between him and the French through the Mediation of the King of Denmark, but the Dukes whole Army consisting of 30. or 40000; Men are obliged not to Act in a Warlike Capacity (as it is

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<sup>1</sup> See the following document.

reported) till April next.<sup>1</sup> The King of Prussia has been hardly beset and embarrassed, but now we hear that the Russians Army<sup>2</sup> under Prince Apraxin (who are Allies with the Austrians and French) are precipitantly retired and gone back again to their own Country leaving a large Number of their Sick and Wounded and 80 Cannon behind them, their Army its suppos'd are near 100,000, Men so that its likely the Prussians will now gain Ground again, there is an Express come last Night from the English grand Fleet w<sup>ch</sup> sailed from Spithead about a Month past &c.

11<sup>th</sup> Ditto

The foregoing is Copy of the substance of my last to thee per Cap<sup>t</sup> Partridge via Boston except that , part of it relating to our Fleet of M. of War that went to make a Descent on the French Coast, the first acco<sup>t</sup> of it relating to their Success proved afterwards to be quite a Mistake, for that they are since all come back again and arrived mostly at Portsmouth having done no great Matters in that Expedition because of the insuperable difficulties that would have attended their Landing

I am Thy assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup>. PARTRIDGE

Since writing the foregoing I have drawn out my Acco<sup>t</sup> with your Colony being here inclosed to the

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<sup>1</sup> This was the notorious Convention of Closterseven, which was concluded on September 8. Cumberland agreed to send home his somewhat motley collection of subsidized troops, and to leave Hanover in possession of the French. The old king never forgave him.

<sup>2</sup> A severe battle, on August 30, with the Prussian army led the Russian commander to retreat nearer to his bases of supplies.

17 of 8<sup>th</sup> month or Aug<sup>t</sup> 1758. Balance thereon being £129:8:6 Sterl in my Favour, which although it is extended longer than the Time of my Salarys being due, yet considering it is War Time and so precarious that no part of the last £100 I drew on Gov<sup>r</sup> Hopkins for, is yet come into my hands and besides there will be still wanting Money for my Solicitations and not unlikely (for ought I know) but there will be occasion of Expence during next Sessions of Parliament, tho' I charge nothing of that kind for last year — I have therefore presumed of this date to draw a Bill on thee of One Hundred Pounds Sterl<sup>s</sup> at 40 days Sight in favour of And<sup>r</sup> Oliver Esq<sup>r</sup> not doubting but the same will meet with due honour and be a further Encouragem<sup>t</sup> to your Agent in the transaction of the Colonys Affairs. So with due Respects to thy Self, the Council and House of Representatives I rest

Thy and their assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

we have just now had advice from New York by the Packet Boat that Fort W<sup>m</sup> and Henry is in possession of the French,<sup>1</sup> and the Articles of Capitulation is also come over

TO WILLIAM GREENE Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations

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<sup>1</sup> Montcalm took advantage of Loudoun's voyage to Halifax to plan an attack on the posts near Lake George. Fort William Henry was garrisoned by 2000 men under Colonel Monro, when Montcalm invested it with 11,000 French and Indians. After a six days' defence, hopeless from the outset, Monro surrendered, and was allowed to withdraw to Fort Edward under an escort of French troops. An account of the situation at Fort Edward and of the so-called massacre of Fort William Henry is given in Captain Christie's letters to Governor Greene, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 82-84, 86.

PETITION OF RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GEORGE II.<sup>1</sup>*To George the 2<sup>d</sup> King of Great Britain &c in Council*

The Petition of R<sup>d</sup> Partridge Agent for and by direction of the Colony of Rhode Island, and Providence Plantations in England. Humbly Sheweth

That the Inhab<sup>ts</sup> of the Said Colony have at their own very great Expence considerably enlarged and added Several new and extensive Works to the Fortifications on Goat Island w<sup>ch</sup> defends the Town, and Commands the Enterance into the Harbour of Newport, Yet notwithstanding all their Cost and Labour they find themselves quite exposed to any Attempts of the Enemy for want of Artillery to mount the new Works they have erected, all the serviceable Cannon they have at present being no more than Six 4 Pounders and Eighteen 18 pounders w<sup>ch</sup> with all the necessary Utensils were purchased at the Expence of the Colony.

That all the other Harbours in North America where any considerable Town is scituated (as the Petitioner is informed) are either effectually secured from the approaches of large Ships by shallow Barrs, or the Navigation rendered extremely dangerous by Sands, Rocks, and intricate Channels so narrow as to be rendered impassible by Sinking Two or Three old Ships, in which Case a few Cannon properly disposed would be an effectual Defence: But the Harbour of Newport (perhaps the finest in all America) has none of those Means of security; The Entrance

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed in letter of October 7, 1757.

into it being deep enough from Side to Side, and almost everywhere within is so Steep and bold, that the largest Ships may anchor within 200 yards of the Shoar as will more fully appear by the annexed Survey, consequently can have no other Security from the Attacks by Sea than strong substantial Fortifications well provided w<sup>th</sup> heavy Artillery, for want of which the Town of Newport containing near 7000 Inhabitants w<sup>th</sup> a large Quantity of Shipping is at present liable to be destroyed by the Enemy even with so small a Force as 2 or 3 Forty Gun Ships, and as there is no doubt but the French are well acquainted with the present defenceless State, there is great Reason to fear Some Attempt will be made against it if permitted much longer to remain so.

That in Case Rhode Island should happen to fall into the Hands of the French by being left thus defenceless they may easily fortify it in such a Manner as would render the Reduction of it extreme difficult if not impracticable, And the Scituation of it is sich that if possessed by an Enemy all Communication between the Eastern and Western Colonies would be intirely cut off; for as the River or Sound which divides it from the Continent is in many Places not quite half a mile over, Ruin and Desolation might from thence be carried into the very Heart of New Engl<sup>d</sup>, and whoever will consult a Map of the British Colonies will readily perceive that there is no Place in all respects more convenient for such a Purpose.

That its well known that the Colony afores<sup>d</sup> is extreamly obnoxious to the French, and much an Object of their Resentm<sup>t</sup> on acco<sup>t</sup> of the great Mis-



chief done to their Trade during the last War by the Rh<sup>d</sup> Island Privateers of which they fitted out more than any other of the Northern Colonys.

That it is of the utmost Importance to all the British Colonys in America that the Harbour afores<sup>d</sup> be effectually secured by a substantial and well provided Fortification, a Plan and Profil whereof is hereunto annexed.

That the Inhab<sup>ts</sup> of the s<sup>d</sup> Colony besides the great Expence they have been at in erecting the Fortifications afores<sup>d</sup> have likewise contributed their full Quota in all the Expeditions and Levies that have lately been made, or are now making in New Eng<sup>d</sup> for his Maj<sup>ty</sup>'s Service which has involved the Colony in a very large Debt (as the Pet<sup>r</sup> has been informed, So that they are utterly unable of themselves to do any thing more towards completing the s<sup>d</sup> Fortifications and providing them with suitable Cannon.

That the Pet<sup>r</sup> is informed that a Representation of the State and Condition of the said Fortifications at Rh<sup>d</sup> Island has been made by the Lords of Trade to the King in Council and w<sup>ch</sup> now lays at the Counsil Office.<sup>1</sup>

Wherefore the Petitioner humbly prays that the said Representation of the Lords of Trade may be taken into consideration by the King in Council respecting the State and Condition of the afores<sup>d</sup> Fortifications and a Grant made to the s<sup>d</sup> Colony of Such a Quantity of heavy Artillery as may enable them to defend themselves ag<sup>st</sup> any Invasions or Assaults of his Maj<sup>ty</sup>'s Enemies: And if they are favoured with a Suf-

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<sup>1</sup> See letter of May 7, 1756.

ficient Number of heavy Cannon and Shot only, the  
Pet<sup>r</sup> is of Opinion that the said Colony would pay  
the Freight and provide Carriages, Powder and other  
necessaries at their own Expence

all which is humbly submitted

R P

LONDON 8<sup>th</sup> month or Aug<sup>r</sup> 1757

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WILLIAM PITT TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF RHODE  
ISLAND.<sup>1</sup>

WHITEHALL, Dec<sup>r</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1757.

*Gentlemen,*

His Majesty having nothing more at Heart, than  
to repair the Losses and Disappointments, of the last  
inactive, and unhappy Campaign; and by the most  
vigorous and extensive Efforts, to avert, by the Bless-  
ing of God on His Arms, the Dangers impending  
on North America; And not doubting, but all His  
Faithfull and Brave Subjects there will chearfully  
co-operate with, and second, to the utmost, the large  
Expence and extraordinary Succours, supplied by this  
Kingdom, for their Preservation and Defence; And  
His Majesty considering, that the several Provinces,  
in particular, from Proximity and accessibility of Sit-  
uation, more immediately obnoxious to the main  
Irruptions of the Enemy from Canada, are, of Them-  
selves, well able to furnish at least Twenty Thousand  
Men, to join a Body of The King's Forces for Invad-  
ing Canada, by the Way of Crown Point, and carry-

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 113.

ing War into the Heart of the Enemy's Possessions ; And His Majesty not judging it expedient to limit the zeal and Ardor of any of His Provinces, by making a Repartition of the Force to be raised by Each respectively, for this most important Service ; I am commanded to signify The King's Pleasure, that you do forthwith use your utmost Endeavours, and Influence, with the Council and Assembly of your Colony, to induce Them to raise, with all possible Dispatch, as large a Body of Men within your Colony, as the Number of Its Inhabitants may allow ; and, forming the same into Regiments, as far as shall be found convenient, That you do direct them to hold Themselves in Readiness, as early as may be, to march to the Rendezvous at Albany, or such other Place as His Majesty's Commander in Chief in America shall appoint, in order to proceed, from thence, in Conjunction with a Body of The King's British Forces, and under the supreme Command of His Majesty's said Commander in Chief, in America, so as to be in a Situation to begin the Operations of the Campaign, by the First of May, if possible, or as soon after, as shall be any way practicable, by attempting to make an Irruption into Canada, as above, by the Way of Crown Point, and, if found practicable, to attack either Montreal or Quebec, or Both of the said Places successively, with the whole Force in one Body, or at one and the same Time, by a Division of the Troops, into separate and distinct Operations, according as His Majesty's said Commander in Chief shall, from His Knowledge of the Countries thro' which the War is to be carried, and from emergent

Circumstances, not to be known here, judge any of the said Attempts to be practicable. And the better to facilitate this important Service, The King is pleased to leave it to you, to issue Commissions to such Gentlemen of your Colony as you shall judge, from their Weight and Credit with the People, and their zeal for the publick Service, may best be disposed and enabled to quicken and effectuate the speedy Levying of the greatest Number of Men; In the Disposition of which Commissions, I am persuaded you will have nothing in View but the Good of the King's Service, and a due Subordination of the Whole, when joined to His Majesty's Commander in Chief; And all Officers of the Provincial Forces, as high as Colonels inclusive, are to have Rank, according to their several respective Commissions, in like Manner as is already given, by His Majesty's Regulations, to the Captains of Provincial Troops in America.

The King is further pleased to furnish all the Men, so raised as above, with Arms, Ammunition, and Tents, as well as to order Provisions to be issued to the same, by His Majesty's Commissaries, in the same Proportion and Manner as is done to the rest of the King's Forces: A sufficient Train of Artillery will also be provided, at His Majesty's Expence, for the Operations of the Campaign; And the Ship that conveys this, carries Orders for timely providing, at The King's Charge, with the utmost Dilligence, and in an ample Manner, Boats, and Vessels, necessary for the Transportation of the Army on this Expedition.

The Whole, therefore, that His Majesty expects and requires from the several Provinces, is, the Levying. Cloathing and Pay of the Men; And on these Heads also, that no Encouragement may be wanting to this great and salutary Attempt, The King is further most Graciously pleased to permit me to acquaint You, that strong Recommendations will be made to Parliament in their Session next Year, to grant a proper Compensation for such Expences as above, according as the active Vigor and strenuous Efforts of the respective Provinces shall justly appear to merit.

Altho' several Thousand Stands of Arms will be forthwith sent from England, to be distributed to the Troops, now directed to be raised, in the Northern and Southern Provinces; Yet, as it is hoped, that the Numbers of Men levyed in all Parts of America, may greatly exceed the Quantity of Arms that can at present be supplied from England; It is His Majesty's Pleasure, that you do, with particular Diligence, immediately collect, and put into the best Condition, all the serviceable Arms that can be found within your Colony, in order that the same may be employed, as far as They will go, in this Exigency.

I am further to inform You, that similar Orders are sent, by this Conveyance to Massachusetts Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey.

The Southern Governments are also directed to raise Men in the same Manner, to be employed in such offensive Operations, as the Circumstances and Situation of the Enemy's Posts, in those Parts, may

point out; which, it is hoped, will oblige them so to divide their Attention and Forces, as will render the several Attempts more easy and successful.

It is unnecessary to add any thing to animate your zeal, in the Execution of His Majesty's Orders on this great Occasion, where the Safety and Preservation of America are at Stake; And the King doubts not, from your known Fidelity and Attachment, that you will employ Yourself, with the utmost Application and Dispatch, on this urgent and dangerous Crisis.

Altho' the Knowledge of an Intention to invade Canada, is apprehended to be not only unattended with an Inconvenience, but necessary to be propagated in the Provinces, in order to give Success to the Levies; Yet, as Secresy in all Enterprizes on particular Places, is of the greatest Importance, The King is persuaded, that you will use all proper Discretion in communicating by Name, any of the immediate Objects before pointed out, further than to such Persons to whom it may be necessary, for the Good of the Service, confidentially to entrust the same.<sup>1</sup>

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

W. PITT.

Governor and Company, of Rhode Island.

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<sup>1</sup> In response to this vigorous appeal the Assembly, in March, 1758, voted to raise one thousand men. See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 129.

WILLIAM PITT TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF RHODE ISLAND.<sup>1</sup>

WHITEHALL 30<sup>th</sup> December 1757.

*Gentlemen,*

The King having judged proper, that the Earl of Loudoun should return to England, And His Majesty having been pleased to appoint Major General Abercromby to succeed His Lordship, as Commander in Chief of the King's Forces in North America, with the same Powers and Authorities; I am commanded to signify to You His Majesty's Pleasure, That you do apply to, and correspond with, Major General Abercromby, on all Matters relating to the King's Service; and that You do obey such Orders as You shall receive, from Him, in the same Manner as You were directed to do, with regard to the several former Commanders in Chief, in North America; And You will, from time to time, give M<sup>r</sup> Abercromby, all the Assistance and Lights in your Power, in all Matters relative to the Command, with which the King has honored Him.

And I am particularly to signify to You His Majesty's Pleasure, that, in Case Major General Abercromby, or the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces, shall, at any Time, apply to You to lay an Embargo on all Ships within your Colony, You do strictly comply with the said Request, for so long a Time, as the Commander in Chief shall desire.

The King having resolved to send a considerable Squadron of Ships of War, the ensuing Year, to

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 115.

North America ; I am farther to signify to You His Majesty's Pleasure, that You do, from time to time, transmit to the Commander in Chief of the King's Ships in North America, all Intelligence, relative to his Department, in the same Manner, as You were directed to do, by my Letter of the 19<sup>th</sup> of last February,<sup>1</sup> to Vice Admiral Holburn; And it is also the King's Pleasure, that You do, in any Application from the Commander in Chief of the King's Ships, use all legal Methods, to supply him with such a Number of Sailors and Workmen from your Colony, as He shall, at any Time, require, for His Majesty's Service.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant.

W. PITT.

The Gov<sup>r</sup> and Company of Rhode Island.

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR GREENE.

LONDON 3<sup>d</sup> month or Mar 4<sup>th</sup> 1758

*Gov<sup>r</sup> Greene*

I wrote thee last of 7<sup>th</sup> and 11 Octo<sup>r</sup><sup>2</sup> since which I have rec<sup>d</sup> none of thy Favours This may now inform thee that I have lately been soliciting the Government here in behalf of Connec<sup>t</sup> for the Sum of £18315 lawful Money w<sup>ch</sup> amounts to £13700. Sterl and upwards for the Cost and Charges of Provisions, Amunition, Stores building Store houses and other Necessities for the Support of 2500 Men in the year

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 39.

<sup>2</sup> See letter on p. 258.



1756 w<sup>ch</sup> by a circular letter from H. Fox Esq<sup>r</sup> (then Sec<sup>ry</sup> of State) to the Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Several Northern Colonies dat<sup>d</sup> 13. March 1756 for which they expect to be reimbursed by the Crown founded on these words among others in the s<sup>d</sup> Sec<sup>ry</sup> of States letter<sup>1</sup> viz “ This Service will be the less burthensome to  
 “ them as the raising of the Men, their pay, Arms  
 “ and Cloathing will be all that will be required of  
 “ them (the Colonies): Measures having been already  
 “ taken for laying up Magazines of Stores of all kinds  
 “ at the Sole Expence of the Crown ”

The above Sum mentioned is exclusive of the Sum . of £5043.15.6 lawful Money w<sup>ch</sup> the s<sup>d</sup> Colony rec<sup>d</sup> of Ch<sup>r</sup> Kilby the Agent for the Crown at Philad<sup>a</sup>. This I thought proper to advise thee of that if yo<sup>r</sup> Colony has any the like demand on the crown care may be taken to send over hither prop<sup>r</sup> and authenticated acco<sup>ts</sup> of it with a particul<sup>r</sup> Authority under the Gov<sup>r</sup> hand and Seale of the Colony to receive the Money and give a discharge for it and also a prop<sup>r</sup> Affidav<sup>t</sup> under seal certifying what the Exch<sup>a</sup> w<sup>th</sup> Sterl Money was at, when it was advanced: there is no Body else making Applica<sup>n</sup> on the same footing except the Agent for the Massach<sup>ts</sup> which is for a larger Sum than I am soliciting for

As for publick News I refer to the prints herewith sent and remain with Respects

Thy assured Friend

R<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

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<sup>1</sup> This letter is in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 485.

GOVERNOR HOPKINS <sup>1</sup> TO THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES.

*To the House of Deputys*  
*Gentlemen*

The season of the year is now Advancing, which may give our Enemies Oppertunity, to ravage our Coasts, or invade our Country: My Duty therefore, requires me to recomend to your Consideratio<sup>n</sup>, the State, and Condition of the Fort; and, make Such Additions, and reparations as may be necessary: provide such Stores as are wanting: and so Many Men as, are Sufficient to render the Fort Defenceable. I must also recomend, to you, to Consider what is fit to be done with the Brigantine lately Built at Providence, with intent to be improved for Guarding the Coasts of this Colony.

STEP HOPKINS

S<sup>o</sup> KINGSTON March 17. 1758.



RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON 5 month or May the 13<sup>th</sup> 1758.

*To the Gov<sup>r</sup>. and Co: of Rhode Island.*

My last to Gov<sup>r</sup>. Greene was of the 4<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> month or March <sup>2</sup> per Cap<sup>t</sup>. Rodman to w<sup>ch</sup> I refer, Since w<sup>ch</sup> I rec<sup>d</sup> from him a Vote of your Gen<sup>l</sup>. Assembly w<sup>th</sup> a letter Signed by Stephen Hopkins, Esq<sup>r</sup>. directing me

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<sup>1</sup> Hopkins was chosen governor on March 13, in place of William Greene, who had recently died. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 123. For action of the Assembly on the subject mentioned in his message, see *Ibid.*, VI. 133.

<sup>2</sup> Not in the archives.

to make Application for a Judge for the Court of Vice Admiralty of a person that resides in the Colony, recommending Jn<sup>o</sup> Andrews Esq<sup>r</sup> as a Suitable Gent<sup>n</sup> for that purpose,<sup>1</sup> and accordingly I have lately prepared a Petition to the Lords of the Admiralty to which I annexed the said Vote of Assembly, and letter and delivered it in to their Office, and shall endeavour to prosecute the same to Effect and acquaint you of the success in my next.

The Parliam<sup>t</sup> have continued their Sessions hither tho only now that they are adjourn<sup>d</sup> for a few days, and it's probable will be prorogued in about 3 weeks Time, after granting near Ten Millions of Publick Supplies for the Curr<sup>t</sup> Year in prosecuting the War &c<sup>a</sup> which still continues with Vigour, there being at this Time a large Fleet of Men of War fitting out again for some secret Expedition,<sup>2</sup> but Spain remains Newter hitherto, Tho [the] King of Prussia still Successfull, and our Ministry seem determin'd to Support him: Hannover is intirely evacuated by the French, tho the Hannoverians have been greatly distressed.

The Parliam<sup>t</sup> are about continuing the Sugar and Molasses Act as heretofore, the old one I think expires at the end of this Sessions and nothing else has passed therein, very Material relating to the Northern Colonies, as I remember — for the rest I refer to the Prints here inclosed, and remain with due Respects.

Your assured Friend,

R P

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<sup>1</sup> See for vote of the Assembly, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 107.

<sup>2</sup> A demonstration against the French coast was in hand. Pitt made several such attempts, which at least served to keep ships and soldiers employed in France.

24<sup>th</sup> Ditto

The foregoing is Copy of my last to the Gov<sup>r</sup> and Comp<sup>a</sup> of yo<sup>r</sup> Colony per the New York pacq<sup>t</sup>, and now I have the pleasure to acquaint thee that I have succeeded in my Solicita<sup>n</sup> with the Lords of the Admiralty for appointing John Andrews Esq<sup>r</sup> Judge of the Court of Vice Admiralty of Rh<sup>d</sup> Island and Providence Plantations and herewith send thee a Copy of the Warr<sup>t</sup> for that purpose<sup>1</sup> signed by the said Lords of the Admiralty to S<sup>r</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> Salusbury Judge of the Court of Admiralty here to cause the Commission to be made out accordingly with whom I have been already about it w<sup>ch</sup> I intend to hasten and when ready forward it per first suitable Opportunity. I am with due Regards to the Gov<sup>r</sup> and Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly

Their Assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

*Warrant of the Lords of the Admiralty.<sup>2</sup>*

By the Comm<sup>rs</sup> for executing the Office of Lord High admiral of great Britain and Ireland &c

Whereas Applica<sup>n</sup> has been made to us from the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly of the Gov<sup>r</sup> and Comp<sup>a</sup> of the Colony of Rh<sup>d</sup> Island and Providence Planta<sup>s</sup> in N. Eng<sup>d</sup> setting forth that there [is] no Judge of the Court of Vice Admiralty within that Colony but a Deputy, and he so much limited and controul'd by his Superior who lives out of the Governm<sup>t</sup><sup>3</sup> that very great Damages, Delays, and Incon-

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<sup>1</sup> See the following document.

<sup>2</sup> Enclosed with letter of May 13, 1758.

<sup>3</sup> Boston, as the centre of commerce, was the seat of the Court of Admiralty for New England. See vote of the Assembly requesting Governor Hopkins to apply to the agent for the appointment of a judge of vice-admiralty "within and for the colony," and recommending Colonel John Andrews, who was appointed to command the regiment raised upon the news of the capitulation of Fort William Henry. This request was due to a memorial of the merchants of Providence setting forth the annoyances resulting from the necessity of adjudging prizes outside of Rhode Island. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 104, 107.

veniencies as well as extravagant Expences have accrued to the Persons concerned in Privateering and therefore desiring that some suitable Person be appointed Judge within and for that Colony: and their Request herein appearing to be reasonable, and they having recommended John Andrews Esq<sup>r</sup> of the s<sup>d</sup> Colony a Gentleman of the Law and of a fair Character as a suitable Person for the said Employment

These are therefore to direct and require you to cause Lett<sup>rs</sup> Pattents to be forth with issued out of the high Court of Admiralty for John Andrews Esq<sup>r</sup> to be Judge of the Admiralty Court of the Colony of Rh<sup>d</sup> Island in the Room of Chambers Russell Esq<sup>r</sup> <sup>1</sup> accordingly in his Majestys Name in manner and form accustomed and to continue in force til further Order.

You are to insert a Clause in the said Patent revoking so much of the Patent of Chambers Russell Esq<sup>r</sup> as appoints him Judge of the Vice Admiralty Court [of the] Colony of Rhode Island. For which this shall be your Warrant. Given under Our Hands, and the Seal of the Office of Admiralty the 12. of May 1758

ANSON

GEO. HAY

J. FORBES

N. STANLEY

To S<sup>r</sup> THOMAS SALUSBURY

Judge of the High Court of Admiralty

By Command of their Lordships

J. CLEVELAND

a True Copy

Test RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

To STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

In Providence in the Colony of Rhode Island.

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<sup>1</sup> Judge of Admiralty at Boston.

GOVERNOR HOPKINS TO GENERAL ABERCROMBY.

PROVIDENCE June 8<sup>th</sup> 1758

*Sir*

Your Excellencys Letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> of May<sup>1</sup> came to my Hands and the Embargo in this Colony was taken of[f] on the 22<sup>2</sup> agreeable to the directions therein contained, your Letter of the 13<sup>th</sup> of May<sup>3</sup> I also received and immediately issued orders for making the Men ready to Move forward and the greatest part of the Regiment are now Embarked and the remainder will very soon follow them. The Colony have furnished Five Hundred Arms for this Campaign being all that is possibly in their Power and for Arms for the remainder of the Regiment, as well as for Tents and other Field equipage for the whole, the Colony depends it will be furnished by the Crown agreeable to M<sup>r</sup> Secretary Pitts Letter to this Colony.<sup>4</sup> As this Colony have provided Billitting for the Troops they have raised since the Time of their inlistment, as well as furnished Provisions for Transporting them to Albany therefore hope to be reimbursed that expence agreeable to the agreement made with the Colony by the Earl of Loudoun for the Troops last year with the greatest Regard and Deference I am

Your Excellencys Most Obedient and  
Most Humble Servant

His Excellency Gen<sup>l</sup> ABERCROMBY

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 150.

<sup>2</sup> See votes of Assembly upon the embargo, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 135, 148.

<sup>3</sup> *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 150.

<sup>4</sup> See Pitt's letter of December 30, 1757.

THE COMMITTEE OF WAR TO COLONEL HENRY BABCOCK.<sup>1</sup>

NEWPORT June 19<sup>th</sup> 1758

*Sir,*

We have just received Advice that the Arms promised by his Majesty to to furnish the American Troops are arrived, and we think that there will be no Occasion of those sent from this Colony, if this be so, then send by One of the Transports those Arms this Colony shipped on Board the Transports for the Use of the Forces; As We are but poorly stocked in the Colony with military Stores. We are, Sir,

Your Obed<sup>t</sup> hum<sup>le</sup> Serv<sup>ts</sup>

J GARDNER } Com<sup>tee</sup> War  
PETER BOURS }

To HENRY BABCOCK Esq  
Col<sup>l</sup> of the Rhode Island Regiment at Albany

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RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON 8 month or Aug<sup>r</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> 1758.

*Gov. Hopkins*

My last to thee was of 23<sup>d</sup> 6 month or June last per the Boscawan Cap<sup>t</sup> Jacobson for Boston when I sent thee the Patent under the Seal of the Admiralty Office appointing John Andrews Esq<sup>r</sup> Judge of the Court of Vice Admiralty of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations,<sup>2</sup> of w<sup>ch</sup> I also advised him

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<sup>1</sup> Babcock was captain of one of the companies sent on the Crown Point expedition of 1755, lieutenant-colonel of the regiment raised to reinforce Webb after the loss of Fort William Henry, and also of that raised in the spring of 1758.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 275.

and of the Expence thereof, and hope the same is by this time got safe to hand, — since which I have rec<sup>d</sup> none of thy Favours.

As to publick News, The devastation of War still continues to rage in Germany between the King of Prussia and the Austrians ; and also between Prince Ferdinand w<sup>th</sup> the Hessians and Hannoverians with some British Forces from hence, and That of the French under Marshall Soubise ; The English Fleet under Comodore How, Bro<sup>r</sup> to Lord How have continued their Invasions on the Coast of France, which has doubtless ben very distressing to that Nation ;<sup>1</sup> The People here have been very lavish in their Rejoycings for the taking of Louisbourg,<sup>2</sup> but they have been damped since, by the acco<sup>t</sup> we have had of the Repulse Gen<sup>l</sup> Abercrombie met with at Ticonderoga,<sup>3</sup> for the rest I refer to the News Paper here inclosed and the Magazine and other Papers sent thee per Cap<sup>t</sup> Ayres — inclosed to And<sup>r</sup> Oliver Esq<sup>r</sup> of Boston to forward.

from Thy assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

TO STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations

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<sup>1</sup> Howe's movements were intended to divert a part of the French forces from the scene of operations in Hanover.

<sup>2</sup> Louisbourg surrendered to the English under Amherst and Wolfe, backed by a fleet under Admiral Boscawen, on July 27, after a siege of seven weeks.

<sup>3</sup> Ticonderoga was attacked by Abercrombie with 15,000 men, on July 6. The first assault was successful, but an attempt made two days later to carry the works without waiting for the artillery was repulsed with fearful loss of life. On July 9 Abercrombie fell back to Fort William Henry, in a retreat which became a panic. He was superseded by Amherst in September. See Colonel Babcock's letters to Hopkins of July 4 and 10, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 163, 164.



WILLIAM PITT TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF RHODE ISLAND.<sup>1</sup>

WHITEHALL 9<sup>th</sup> Decem<sup>r</sup> 1758.

*Gentlemen*

His Majesty having nothing so much at Heart, as to improve the great and important advantages gained the last Campaign; as well as to repair the disappointment at Tionderoge;<sup>2</sup> and, by the most vigorous and extensive Efforts, to avert, by the Blessing of God on his Arms, all dangers, which may threaten North America from any future Irruptions of the French; And the King not doubting, that all His faithful and Brave Subjects there, will chearfully Co-Operate with, and second to the utmost, the large Expence and extraordinary Succours, supplied by this Kingdom, for their Preservation and defence; And His Majesty considering, that the several Provinces in Particular, from Proximity and Accessibility of Situation, more immediately Obnoxious to the main Irruptions of the Enemy from Canada, are, of themselves, well able to furnish, at least, Twenty Thousand Men, to join a Body of the Kings Forces, for invading Canada by the way of Crown Point, and carrying War into the Heart of the Enemy's Possessions; And His Majesty not judging it expedient to limit the zeal and Ardour of any of His Provinces, by making a Repartition of the Force to be raised by Each respectively, for this most important Service; I am Commanded to Signify to you the Kings Plea-

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 178.

<sup>2</sup> See note to preceding letter.

sure, that you do forthwith Use your Utmost Endeavours and Influence with the Council and Assembly of your Colony, to induce them to raise, with all possible dispatch, within your Government, at least as large a Body of Men as they did for the last Campaign, and even as many more, as the Number of it's Inhabitants may allow; and, forming the same into Regiments, as far as shall be found Convenient, that you do direct them to hold themselves in readiness, as early as may be, to march to the Rendezvous at Albany, or such other Place, as His Majesty's Commander in Chief in America shall Appoint, in Order to proceed from thence, in Conjunction with a Body of the King's British Forces, and under the Supreme Command of His Majesty's said Commander in Chief in America, so as to be in a situation, to begin the Operations of the Campaign, by the first of May, if possible, or as soon after, as shall be any way practicable, by attempting to make an Irruption into Canada as above, by the way of Crown Point; and, if found practicable, to Attack either Montreal, or Quebeck, or both of said Places, successively, with the whole Force in One Body, or at One and the same time, by a Division of the Troops into separate and distinct Operations, according as His Majesty's Commander in Chief shall, from his knowledge of the Countries, through which the War is to be carryed, and from emergent Circumstances not to be known here, judge any of the said Attempts to be practicable; And the better to facilitate this important Service, The King is pleased to Leave it to you, to Issue Commissions to such Gentlemen of your Colony, as you

shall judge, from their Weight and Credit with the People, and their Zeal for the Publick Service, may be best disposed, and able, to quicken and effectuate the speedy Levying of the greatest Number of Men. In the disposition of which Commissions, I am persuaded, you will have nothing in View, but the Good of the King's Service, and a due Subordination of the whole, when joined, to His Majesty's Commander in Chief; And all Officers of the Provincial Forces, as high as Colonels, inclusive, are to have Rank, according to their several respective Commissions, agreable to the Regulations, contained in His Majesty's Warrant of the 30<sup>th</sup> of December, last year.

The King is further pleased to furnish all the Men, so raised as above, with Arms, Ammunition and Tents, as well as to order Provisions to be issued to the same, by His Majesty's Commissaries, in the same proportion and manner, as is done to the rest of the King's Forces. A sufficient Train of Artillery will also be provided, at His Majesty's Expence, for the Operations of the Campaign; And the Ship, that Conveys this, carries Orders for timely providing, at the King's Charge, with the utmost diligence, and in an Ample manner, Boats and Vessells, necessary for the Transportation of the Army on this Expedition. The whole therefore, that His Majesty expects and requires from the several Provinces, is, the Levying, Cloathing, and Pay, of the Men;<sup>1</sup> And, on these Heads also, that no Encouragement may be wanting to this great and salutary Attempt, the

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<sup>1</sup> The Assembly met in February, 1759, and voted to raise one thousand men for the ensuing campaign. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 181, 191.

King is further most graciously pleased to permit me to acquaint you, that strong Recommendations will be made to Parliament, in their Session, next year, to grant a proper Compensation for such Expences as above, according as the Active Vigour and strenuous Efforts of the respective Provinces shall justly appear to merit.

It is His Majesty's Pleasure, that you do, with particular Diligence, immediately Collect, and put into the best Condition, all the Arms, issued last Campaign, which can be any ways rendered serviceable, or that can be found within your Government, in Order that the same may be employ'd, as far as they will go, in this Exigency. I am at the same time to acquaint you, that a reasonable Supply of Arms will be sent from England, to replace such, as may have been lost, or that become unfit for future Service.

I am further to inform you, that similar Orders are sent by this Conveyance to Massachusetts Bay, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey; The Southern Governments are also directed to raise Men in the same manner; to be employed in such Offensive Operations, as the Circumstances and Situation of the Enemy's Posts in those Parts, may point Out, which, it is hoped, will Oblige them so to divide their Attention and Forces, as will render the several Attempts more easy and successfull.

It is unnecessary to add any thing, to animate your Zeal, in the execution of His Majesty's Orders, on this great Occasion, where the future Safety and Welfare of America are at Stake; and the King

doubts not, from your known fidelity and attachment, that You will Employ yourself, with the utmost Application and dispatch, in this urgent and decisive Crisis.

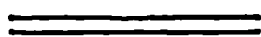
Altho' the knowledge of an Intention to invade Canada is apprehended, not only to be unattended with any inconvenience, but necessary to be propagated in the Provinces, in order to give success to the Levies; Yet, as Secresy in all Enterprizes on particular places, is of the greatest Importance, The King is persuaded, that you will Use all proper discretion in communicating, by Name, any of the immediate Objects before pointed Out, further than to such Persons, to whom it may be nécessaire, for the good of the Service, Confidentially to Entrust the same.

I am Gentlemen

Your most obedient humble Servant,

W. PITT

Governor and Company of Rhode Island.



RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON 1<sup>st</sup> month or Jan<sup>r</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> 1759.

*To the Gov<sup>r</sup>. ana Comp<sup>a</sup>. of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations*

My last to Gov<sup>r</sup> Hopkins was of 12<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> of the Sea Horse Man of War, to w<sup>ch</sup> I refer having since rec<sup>d</sup> none of his favours, this now brings my acco with your Colony the Ball. thereof being £99.8.6.

and of this date I have presumed to draw a Bill of £100. Sterl. at 40. days Sight payable to the Order of And<sup>r</sup> Oliver which you will please to honour accordingly.

Several of the Agents of the of the N<sup>o</sup> Colonies are about Soliciting the Ministry for som Compensation for the Expence incurr'd for the Troops raised last year agreeable to the assurances given by the Sec<sup>ry</sup> of State that the King woud make strong Representations to Parliament for it;<sup>1</sup> I intend to Solicit also in behalf of your Colony in the best manner I can, tho' there shoud have been sent over Acco<sup>ts</sup> of the Expence duly Authenticated, and how many of the 1000 Men your Colony agreed at first to raise did actually march.

What proportion of the Expence will be allowed we know not yet, or whether it will be done this Sessions, unless the Acco<sup>ts</sup> come over in time, but yet it is intended to have the Matter push'd forward. I am with due Respects to your Selves and the Gent<sup>n</sup> of the House of Representatives.

Your assured Friend

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE

To The Governor and Company of the Colony of  
Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

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<sup>1</sup> See Pitt's letter of December 30, 1757.

RICHARD PARTRIDGE TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

LONDON 3d Mo. or March 1<sup>st</sup> 1759.*Gent.*

My last to You was of the 31<sup>st</sup> of 1<sup>st</sup> Mo.<sup>1</sup> or Jan<sup>y</sup> last which I Expect you will Receive before this. My Principal View in Writing to you now is to Inform You that I have been confined near a Fortnight with a severe fitt of the Gravel so that I am under some Apprehension least this Illness sho<sup>d</sup> carry me to my Grave the Consideration of which and my advanced Age has made me thoughtfull about the Affairs of the several Colonies which I have the Honour to represent

I have for some time past had the Assistance of one of our Friends in Conducting and Transacting my Agency Affairs and have found him Capable and Attentive to Business and carefull to Discharge his Duty with Fidelity and application I have Appointed him one of my Executors when it shall please Divine Providence to Remove me, Permitt me also to propose him to You as a proper person to Succeed me in the Office of Agent for your Colony and if he meets with your Approbation am well perswaded his knowledge in Business his prudent Conduct and Diligent application will give you ample Satisfaction. His Direction is Joseph Sherwood Attorney at Law in Austin-Fryers near the Royal Exchange London. If it please the Almighty to Favour me with the Restoration of my Health I shall continue my Care

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<sup>1</sup> See the preceding letter.

and Paines in your Affairs. I am Gentlemen with due respects.

Y<sup>r</sup> Assured Fr<sup>d</sup>

RICH<sup>d</sup> PARTRIDGE.

To The Gov<sup>r</sup> and Company of the Colony of Rhode-  
Island and Providence Plantations.

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD<sup>1</sup> TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF  
RHODE ISLAND.

*Gent<sup>n</sup>*

The other side is a Copy of a Letter from Richard Partridge sent per the Sherborn Capt<sup>n</sup> Calef, at that Time he did not think himself so near his Dissolution as he really was (he dying on the 5<sup>th</sup> Instant) but being dubious of his Recovery he Directed that Letter to be wrote and sent to You and Subscribed it with his own hand.

He requested me a considerable time before his Illness to stand one of his Executors, and as I was Conversant with his Business and Assistant to him therein Occasionally, I take the Liberty of Offering my Services to you Gent<sup>n</sup> to succeed him as your Agent and if you shall please to confer that Honour on me I shall Endeavour to Meritt your Favour and Discharge my Duty with application and Fidelity.<sup>2</sup>

I have not yet had time or Opportunity to Meth-

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<sup>1</sup> Sherwood was, like Partridge, a member of the Society of Friends. He acted as agent for Rhode Island until his death, in 1772, and was agent for New Jersey from 1761 to 1766.

<sup>2</sup> See Letter of Agency to Sherwood, of November 1, 1759; and votes of the Assembly in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 224, 226.



odize and peruse his Papers with Attention and consequently am not able to write so fully on your Affairs as I could wish but Intend to take the Liberty of troubling you with another Letter shortly. I am Gentlemen with great respect

Y<sup>r</sup> Assured Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

AUSTIN-FRYERS.

17<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> Mo. or March 1759

I have been forced to hurry over the above as the New-York Pacquett is made up this Evening and I was not willing to miss this Opportunity.

Gov<sup>r</sup> and Company of the Colony of Rhode-Island  
and Providence Plantations.



GOVERNOR HOPKINS TO THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES.

As the Season of the Year is Approaching when we have reason to fear being Visited by our Enemies I therefore, recomend to you, to take Such Proper Measures, as You may think Necessary for putting the Colony in a proper Posture of Defence; and, for Providing Such Warlike Stores for the Fort as may be Wanting: and, so many Men to be placed there as are Needfull for rendering the same as Usefull as may be.<sup>1</sup>

STEP HOPKINS

NEWPORT May 4<sup>th</sup> 1759

To the House of Deputys

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<sup>1</sup> See vote of the Assembly, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 208.

JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Gov. Hopkins Resp<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>*

Before the Receipt of this thou wilt doubtless hear of the Decease of our Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup> Rich<sup>d</sup> Partridge and that he Appointed me one of his Executors.

I received thy Letter respecting the Appointment of Officers of the Court of Vice-Admiralty in your Colony and also the Letters and Accounts relating to your Disbursements and considering that no time was to be lost in these Affairs I Immediately preferred my Petition to the Lords of the Admiralty a Copy of which is annexed, and also delivered the Acco<sup>ts</sup> with a further or additional Memorial to the Lords of the Treasury, R. Partridge having Exhibitted one on y<sup>r</sup> behalf just before his Decease, In regard to the first Affair I have not yet got the Petition answered, but fear it sticks on Account of my not being cloathed with the Authority of an Agent, as for the latter a Message was bro<sup>u</sup>t into the House of Commons from the King on the 26<sup>th</sup> ult was read by the Speaker and is as follows.

GEORGE R.

“ His Majesty being sensible of the Zeal and  
“ Vigour with which his Faithfull Subjects in North  
“ America, have Exerted themselves in Defence of  
“ his Majesty’s just rights and Possessions Recom-  
“ mends it to this House to take the same into their  
“ Consideration, and Enable his Majesty to give them  
“ a proper compensation for the Expences incurred  
“ by the respective Provinces in the Levying Cloath-

“ing and Pay of the Troops raised by the same Ac-  
“cording to the Active Vigour and strenous Efforts  
“of the respective Provinces shall justly Appear to  
“Meritt. Ordered Nem : Con :

“That his Majesty’s most gracious Message be  
“referred to the Consideration of the Committee of  
“the whole House to whom it is referred to Consider  
“further of the Supply granted to his Majesty.

And on the 30<sup>th</sup> of same Month the said Com-  
mittee br<sup>t</sup> in the following Resolution.

“*Resolved* That it is the Opinion of this Com-  
“mittee that a Sum not Exceeding Two Hundred  
“Thousand Pounds be granted to his Majesty upon  
“Account to Enable his Majesty to give a proper  
“Compensation to the respective Provinces in North  
“America for the Expences incurred by them on the  
“Levyng Cloathing and Pay of the Troops raised  
“by the same according as the Active Vigour and  
“Strenous Efforts of the respective Provinces shall  
“be thought by his Majesty to Meritt”

The said Resolution being twice read was Agreed  
to by the House.

In what manner the above is to be divided will be  
the Subject of future Consideration. I shall Use the  
utmost Diligence for the Benefit of your Colony, in  
every respect, that no Inconvenience may Arise from  
the Sudden Decease of your Agent I hope I shall  
be able to Meritt the favourable Regard of the

Gentlemen of the General Assembly and am with  
due respects to them and thyself their and

Thy Ass<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

AUSTIN-FRYERS NEAR THE EXCHANGE.

5<sup>th</sup> Mo. or May 11<sup>th</sup> 1759.

A Message has been sent from the Ministry to the  
Treasury Recommending the Distribution of the  
above to that Board.

*To the Lords Comm<sup>rs</sup> of the Admiralty.*

The Petition of Joseph Sherwood on the behalf of  
the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Planta-  
tions in America. Humbly Sheweth.

That near a Twelve month ago a Commission  
Issued from the High Court of Admiralty Appoint-  
ing John Andrews Esq<sup>r</sup> Judge of the Court of Vice-  
Admiralty for the said Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations.<sup>1</sup>

That your Petitioner hath lately received from  
Stephen Hopkins Esq<sup>r</sup> the Governour of the s<sup>d</sup> Col-  
ony a Vote of the General Assembly there and a  
Letter representing that there is a Deficiency of Offi-  
cers in the said Court of Vice Admiralty there being  
neither Register nor Marshall of the same Court Ex-  
cept a Deputy Register Appointed by a Principal  
living at a great Distance from the said Colony and  
that great Mischiefs and Inconveniences are likely to  
Attend the Want of such Officers and also Recom-  
mending Tho<sup>s</sup> Vernon Esq<sup>r</sup> for the Office of Register  
and Cap<sup>t</sup> William Mumford for the Office of Marshall

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<sup>1</sup> See warrant on p. 275.

they being Persons of unblemished Characters and Suitable to those Offices as sett forth in the said Vote of the General Assembly<sup>1</sup> and Letter hereunto annexed. That the said Letter and Vote came Directed to Rich<sup>d</sup>. Partridge the Agent for the said Colony, who is lately deceased having Appointed y<sup>r</sup> Petitioner his Executor and Left to him the Care of his Business.

Wherefore y<sup>r</sup> Pet<sup>r</sup> humbly prays that you wo<sup>d</sup> be pleased to Appoint and Commissionate the said Thomas Vernon to be Register and the said William Mumford to be Marshall of the Court of Vice-Admiralty of the said Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations accordingly

Which is humbly Submitted

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

To STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
in America



JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

14<sup>th</sup> 7 Mo. or July 1759.

*Resp<sup>d</sup>. Fr<sup>d</sup>. Gov<sup>r</sup>. Hopkins.*

My last to thee was per the New York Pacquett and Duplicate per the London Capt<sup>n</sup> Finglass. Since which Viz<sup>t</sup> on the 20<sup>th</sup> Ult. the Lords of the Treasury Gave Audience to the several Agents for the North-

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<sup>1</sup> See vote of the Assembly, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 174.

ern Colonies in respect to the Meritt and Active Vigour of each where I Attended on behalf of your Colony (having first laid a proper Memorial before them as mentioned in my last) They were averse to taking Notice of any thing but the Expences of 1758 altho' the Mem<sup>ls</sup> of some other Colonies as well as yours pressed for a Compensation for the preceeding Years, But the Lords alleged they were confined to the last Year only.

The Allotment to each Colony is not yet known but I don't doubt your Colony will fare as well as the Rest and have it's due proportion.

It is thought the money may be ready some time in September but they seem to determine to pay it to none but some person Authorized by the Governour Council and Assembly of the several Provinces to Receive the same, tis therefore Incumbent on you Immediately to send an Authority for that purpose.<sup>1</sup>

Gen<sup>l</sup> Winslow made a Demand on Connecticut New-York and Rhode Island which is thought will be allowed him.

As to the Affair of the Court of Vice Admiralty, it Remains as before the Lords not having Answered my Petition owing as I beleive to the Reason given in my last. Admiral Rodney is just returned from an Expedition to Havre de Grace, where he destroyed some flatt Bottomed Boats and damaged the Town by Fire, But it Appears he has not done the French so much Mischief as was at first Expected and Reported<sup>2</sup> I am with due respect to thy self

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<sup>1</sup> See vote of the Assembly authorizing Sherwood to act as agent, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 226.

<sup>2</sup> Boats and munitions of war were being collected at Havre, it was supposed for an

and the Gent<sup>a</sup> of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly Their and thy  
Ass<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

AUSTIN-FRYERS.

Great talk of a French Invasion.

TO STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Colony of Rhode Island and Provi-  
dence Plantations  
in America.



LETTER OF AGENCY FROM RHODE ISLAND TO JOSEPH  
SHERWOOD.

Whereas the General Assembly of the English Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England in America at their Session held at East Greenwich on the Twentieth Day of August in the thirty third Year of the Reign of His most Sacred Majesty GEORGE the Second by the Grace of GOD King of Great Britain France and Ireland Defender of the Faith and soforth did Nominate, Choose and Appoint Joseph Sherwood of the Parish of ——— in the City of London Gentleman to be Agent and Attorney for the said Colony at in and throughout the Kingdom of Great Britain and did further order and direct the Governor of the said Colony for the Time being to make and Send to the said Joseph Sherwood in the Name and Behalf of the said Colony such proper and authentic Powers of Attor-

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invansion of England. These were destroyed, and the operations of the French coast-  
era were restricted.

ney and Agency as may enable him to transact perform and finish all such Businesses of the said Colony as may be committed to him.

Now be it known unto all whom it may concern that I Stephen Hopkins Esquire Governor Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over the English Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England in America have Constituted Ordained and Appointed and by these Presents do in the Name and Behalf of the said Colony Constitute Ordain and Appoint the aforesaid Joseph Sherwood to be my true and lawful Agent and Attorney in my said Public Capacity and for and in the Name and Behalf of the said Colony to appear for act do transact and furnish all and every Suit and Business of the Colony aforesaid at the Court of His aforesaid Majesty and before the Parliament of Great Britain and any other of His said Majesty's Councils Courts and Boards of Business within the said Kingdom and in the Name and Behalf of the said Colony and to the proper Use and Benefit thereof to receive any Sum and Sums of Money that may be given or granted or any otherwise be due and belonging to the said Colony by or within the said Kingdom of Great Britain and proper Receipts Acquittances and Discharges to make and give for and in the Name of the said Colony for any and all Sum and Sums of Money so received And in general to begin prosecute and finish every other Matter and Thing needful to be done for and in Behalf of the said Colony at and within the said Kingdom of Great Britain Giving and by these Presents granting to the said Joseph .



Sherwood the full Power and Authority of the Colony aforesaid so far as is needful for the carrying on and accomplishing the whole Business before-mentioned or intended Hereby promising in the Name and behalf of the said Colony of Rhode Island that all and whatsoever the said Joseph Sherwood shall lawfully do or cause to be done in and about the Premises shall be binding upon and forever held firm and valid by the said Colony.

In Witness whereof I the said Stephen Hopkins as Governor as aforesaid have hereunto Set my Hand and caused the Seal of the said Colony to be affixed at Rhode Island the        Day of        in the Thirty third Year of His said Majesty's Reign And in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty nine.

DANIEL JENCKS } Com<sup>tee</sup>  
PETER BOURS }

November the 1<sup>st</sup> 1759

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Resp<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>*

After long Expectation of an Answer to my Letters wrote thee I at length received thy agreeable Favour of 20<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup>. Accompanied with the Vote of Assembly and Letter of Attorney<sup>1</sup> which Appear Sufficient for the Purpose intended.

The Assembly having been Pleased to Conferr on me the Honour of their Agency I shall Manifest my

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<sup>1</sup> See the preceding document.

grateful Sence of that Favour by a Diligent and Faithfull Application to the Discharge of the Trust reposed in me, and hope my Endeavours will Give Satisfaction and Reflect Credit on the Memory of your late Worthy Agent in Answering the Character he was pleased to Give me.

The Lords of the Treasury have Allotted the sum of Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Eight Pounds as your Colony's proportion of the Money granted last Sessions out of which there will be a Deduction of £139.5.8<sup>d</sup> which sum is allowed by them to Gen<sup>l</sup> Winslow that being the manner in which they have thought proper to Reward his Services. I understand he has upwards of £600 from the Colony of Connecticut. The Warrants for this money now lay before the King and I Expect will very soon be received by as many of the Agents as are properly Authorized. I shall Observe the Instructions expressed in thy Letter respecting the Disposition of your Money as soon as I have received it which I Daily Expect.

In respect to the Accounts I received of your Disbursements in 1756 I apprehend you are not the only Colony who missed of that Bounty which Was received by Massachusetts and Connecticut<sup>1</sup> and tho' there was something dropped by the Lords which was a reasonable Foundation for the Observation in my Letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> (7<sup>th</sup> Mo.) July that the Lords Confined themselves to the Year 1758 Yet from what

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<sup>1</sup> The accounts of Rhode Island were not sent to England in season. Sherwood petitioned in March, 1760, for £4212, and his efforts to obtain it extend over fifteen years, but the account was never allowed.

has since Occurred it Appears to me this money is Intended as a full Compensation for all the Expences of the several Colonies accrued at that Time. Be that as it may I think it highly Improper to stir in that Affair till we have received the above sum (the Lords are so averse to further Applications that their Secretarys will not yet Inform the Agents what Sums are allotted to the other Colonies least the knowledge of that should produce fresh Solicitations). If I find afterward that tis Expedient and proper to make use of that Acco<sup>t</sup> I shall in that as in every other Affair have the Interest of the Colony at heart.

The application respecting the Register and Marshall of your Court of Vice-Admiralty shall be persued.

The sum Allotted to New-Jersey is £9166.

This Sessions of Parliament was opened the 13<sup>th</sup> ult with a speech from the King by Comm<sup>rs</sup> (of which the Prince of Wales was Chief) nothing Extraordinary has hitherto Occurred therein nor doth there Appear any thing likely to be moved which may Affect your Colony or Abridge your Rights and Priviledges I shall keep a Diligent Watch and if there should will Endeavour to prevent and Give you Notice.

There is no material Alteration among the People at the Helm of Affairs here.

Our Publick Funds are considerably raised by the Repeated Accounts of the Success of our Arms the last being the Defeat of the French-Fleet<sup>1</sup> a particular Acco<sup>t</sup> of which Suppose will Appear in the Pub-

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<sup>1</sup> Doubtless the battle of Quiberon Bay, in November, 1759.

lick Papers. I am with great respect to the Gent<sup>rs</sup>  
of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly and thyself

Their and thy Ass<sup>d</sup> and Obliged Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

3<sup>d</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1759.

AUSTIN-FRYERS.

TO STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Colony of Rhode-Island and Provi-  
dence Plantations in America.



WILLIAM PITT TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF RHODE  
ISLAND.<sup>1</sup>

WHITEHALL Jan<sup>y</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1760.

*Gentlemen,*

His Majesty having nothing so much at Heart,  
as to improve the great and important Advantages,  
gained the last Campaign in North America;<sup>2</sup> and  
not doubting that all His Faithfull and Brave Sub-  
jects there will continue most chearfully to cooperate  
with, and second to the utmost, the large Expence  
and extraordinary Succours, supplied by this King-  
dom, for their Preservation, and future Security, by  
compleating the Reduction of all Canada; And His  
Majesty not judging it expedient to limit the Zeal  
and Ardor of any of His Provinces, by making a  
Repartition of the Force, to be raised by Each, re-  
spectively, for this most important Service; I am  
commanded to signify to You the King's Pleasure,

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 234.

<sup>2</sup> Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Niagara, and Quebec had been captured.

that You do forthwith use Your utmost Endeavours and Influence, with the Council and Assembly of Your Province, to induce them to raise, with all possible Dispatch, within Your Government, at least as large a Body of Men, as they did for the last Campaign, and even as many more as the Number of Its Inhabitants may allow; and, forming the same into Regiments, as far as shall be found convenient, that You do direct them to hold themselves in readiness, as early as may be, to march to the Rendezvous, at Albany, or such other Place, as His Majesty's Commander in Chief, in America shall appoint, in order to proceed from thence, in Conjunction with a Body of the King's British Forces, and under the supreme Command of His Majesty's said Commander in Chief in America, so as to be in a Situation to begin the Operations of the Campaign by the First of May, if possible; or as soon after as shall be any way practicable, by an Irruption into Canada, in order to reduce Montreal, and all other Posts belonging to the French in those Parts, and farther to annoy the Enemy in such Manner as His Majesty's Commander in Chief shall, from his Knowledge of the Countries, thro' which the War is to be carried, and from emergent Circumstances not to be known here, judge to be practicable; And the better to facilitate this important Service, The King is pleased to leave it to You to issue Commissions to such Gentlemen of Your Province, as You shall judge, from their Weight and Credit with the People, and their Zeal for the Publick Service, may be best disposed and able to quicken and effectuate the speedy Levying of the greatest

Number of Men ; in the Disposition of which Commissions, I am persuaded You will have nothing in View, but the Good of the King's Service, and a due Subordination of the whole, when joined, to His Majesty's Commander in Chief ; And all Officers of the Provincial Forces, as high as Colonels, inclusive, are to have Rank, according to their several respective Commissions, agreeable to the Regulations contained in His Majesty's Warrant of the 30<sup>th</sup> of Dec<sup>r</sup> 1757.

The King is further pleased to furnish all the Men, so raised as above, with Arms, Ammunition and Tents, as well as to order Provisions to be issued to the same, by His Majesty's Commisaries, in the same Proportion and Manner as is done to the rest of the King's Forces. A sufficient Train of Artillery will also be provided, at His Majesty's Expence, for the Operations of the Campaign ; And the Ship, that conveys this, carries Orders for Timely providing, at the King's Charge, with the utmost Diligence, and in an Ample Manner, Boats and Vessels, necessary for the Transportation of the Army, on this Expedition.

The whole therefore, that His Majesty expects and requires from the several Provinces, is, the Levying, Cloathing and Pay of the Men : and on these Heads also, that no Encouragement may be wanting to this great and salutary Attempt, The King is further most graciously pleased to permit me to acquaint You, that strong Recommendations will be made to Parliament, at their Session next Year, to grant a proper Compensation for such Expences as

above, according to the Active Vigour, and strenuous Efforts of the respective Provinces shall justly appear to merit.

It is His Majesty's Pleasure, that You do, with particular Diligence, immediately collect, and put into the best Condition, all the Arms issued last Campaign, which can be any ways rendered Serviceable, or that can be found within Your Gouvernement, in order that the same may be employed, as far as they will go, in this Exigency. I am at the same Time to acquaint You, that a reasonable Supply of Arms will be sent from England, to replace such, as may have been lost, or have become unfit for future Service.

I am further to inform You, that similar Orders are sent by this Conveyance, to New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey: The Southern Gouvernements are also directed to raise Men in the same Manner, to be employed in such Offensive Operations, as the Circumstances and Situation of the Enemy's Posts in those Parts may point out, which, it is hoped, will oblige them so to divide their Attention and Forces, as may render the several Attempts more easy and successfull.

It is unnecessary to add any Thing to animate Your Zeal in the Execution of His Majesty's Orders on this great Occasion, where the future Safety and Welfare of America are so nearly concerned; And the King doubts not, from Your known Fidelity and Attachmant, that You will employ Yourself, with

the utmost Application and Dispatch, in this promising and decisive Crisis.<sup>1</sup>

I am, with great Truth and Regard, Gentlemen,  
Your most obedient humble Servant

W. PITT

Gov<sup>r</sup> and Company of Rhode Island.

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Gent.*

My last was to Gov<sup>r</sup> Hopkins dated the 3<sup>d</sup> Ult<sup>2</sup> per the Friendship Crane and Dup: per the New York Pacquett.

From that time till now I have been very Assiduous in pushing forward the Payment of your money as ment<sup>d</sup> therein but we were about a Month ago plainly told by the Secretarys of the Treasury that they have not money wherewith to pay us but Proposed to open a Loan at the Exchequer to which the several Agents might if they thought proper Subscribe the several sums Allotted to their respective Colonies, and by that means Draw an Interest on the Principal Sum which they told us wo<sup>d</sup> be undoubtedly paid about the Beginning of April next Interest and all and unless we Embraced this Proposal We must Wait that Time before We could Receive our money and then without Interest.

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<sup>1</sup> The Assembly again voted to raise one thousand men. See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 239.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 296.



The Agent for Connecticut readily accepted this and several of the other Agents Endeavoured to pay in theirs but were prevented by the Want of Sufficient Authorities from their Respective Colonies.

I declined accepting this Proposal untill I had with Diligence and Application made myself fullye Master of the Affair and taken the best advice thereon when thinking it most beneficial to the Colony to Accept it and Especially as there was no other way of coming at the money, I Entred your money also. We are to be paid out of the first money arising from the Sinking Fund with Interest at four Per Cent and have Strong Assurances of Receiving it the beginning of April.

New-York and New-Hampshire have not received any Compensation for their Expences in 1756 but I shall make the proper Use of the Accounts sent me in the next Solicitation on the behalf of the Colony which I am now about to Commence.<sup>1</sup>

The Application for a Register and Marshall of your Court of Vice Admiralty<sup>2</sup> I have persued with Industry and Zeal but have not obtained a final Answer.

The Parliament is now sitting nothing Occurs therein relating to the Colonies. We have no Expectations of a Peace this Year very large Sums being voted for Prosecuting the Warr with the Utmost Vigour.

Please to Transmitt me with all possible Expedition an Account of the Number of Men you sent into the Field last Year and the Expence of their Levy-

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<sup>1</sup> See note to letter of December 3, 1759.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 291.

ing Cloathing and Pay,<sup>1</sup> I don't mean so Exact and Minute as your last but General Information to myself that I may be Enabled to Answer any Questions put to me in that respect I am Gent with all due respect

Y<sup>r</sup> Ass<sup>d</sup> and Obliged Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

AUSTIN-FRYERS 31<sup>st</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1760.



JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Gent.*

By my Letters to you of 31<sup>st</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Mo. or Jan<sup>y</sup> last <sup>2</sup> per the Fr<sup>d</sup>Ship Crane and the New-York Pacquett I Informed that I had Invested your share of the Money in such manner that it wo<sup>d</sup> carry Interest from the time therein ment<sup>d</sup> an Advantage which several of the other Colonies wo<sup>d</sup> gladly Embrace but are Deprived of for want of Sufficient Authorities to their Agents for receiving the same. I have got the Exchequer Tallys and Orders and as soon as the money is received it shall be Disposed according to the Directions sent me.

And now these may Inform you That I have lately Lodged with the Secretary of State a Petition to his Majesty on behalf of your Colony for Reinbursement of the £4211.19.7<sup>d</sup> Expended in the year 1756 in Provisions Artillery Stores Transportation &c. on the Crown Point Expedition and this Sollicitation

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<sup>1</sup> See vote of Assembly of June, 1760, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 254.

<sup>2</sup> See preceding letter.

shall be persued with all possible Assiduity and Diligence.<sup>1</sup>

I sho<sup>d</sup> have been pleased to have received from you an Account of your Last Year's operations as ment<sup>d</sup> in my Last.<sup>2</sup> The Agents (some of them) are in Expectation or rather hopes of obtaining a Grant this Year had I received any Acco<sup>ts</sup> from you or been furnished with any materials whatsoever, I sho<sup>d</sup> have moved therein tho' I dont find any of the other Agents have. shall keep a Diligent and carefull observation respecting the same.

I have taken much Pains in the Application for a Register and Marshall of your Court of Vice-Admiralty,<sup>3</sup> but the Lords of the Admiralty here seem to think them unnecessary being already Established in a Neighbouring Colony I have not yet received a final Answer but when I do Expect it will be a Denial shall nevertheless Continue my Endeavours till brought to a Period.

Richard Onslow Esq<sup>r</sup> Brother to the Speaker of the House of Commons is deceased. That House has been much Engaged during this Sessions about the Corn Distillery. Nothing arises in either House that seems materially to relate to the Colonys.

Lord Geo. Sackville is now on his Trial by a Court Martial for his Conduct on the Plains of Minden.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See note to letter of December 3; 1759.

<sup>2</sup> See preceding letter.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 291.

<sup>4</sup> The battle of Minden took place on August 1, 1759. Lord George Sackville, who commanded the English cavalry, disobeyed at a critical moment the order to charge. A court-martial pronounced him guilty of disobedience and unfit to serve the Crown in any capacity whatever.

Doubtless you have heard of the Discent of Thurot on the Irish Coast and the Attack and Capture of his Squadron off the Isle of Man in which Engagement he Lost his Life.<sup>1</sup> I am with great respect Gent

Y<sup>r</sup> Ass<sup>d</sup> and obliged Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

17<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> Mo. March 1760.

AUSTIN-FRYERS.

To The Gov<sup>r</sup> and Company of the Colony of  
Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations in  
New-England in America

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Gent.*

My last to You was of the 17<sup>th</sup> Ult per the New York Pacquett and Duplicate per the Peggy Capt<sup>n</sup> Evers.

The 26<sup>th</sup> of last Month the Chancellour of the Exchequer presented to the House of Commons a Message from his Majesty in the following words.

GEORGE R.

“ His Majesty being Sensible of the Zeal and  
“ Vigour with which his Faithfull Subjects in North  
“ America have Exerted themselves in Defence of  
“ his Majesty’s just Rights and Possessions Recom-  
“ mends it to this House to take the same into Con-  
“ sideration and to Enable his Majesty to give them a

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<sup>1</sup> The reference is to Thurot’s descent upon the Irish coast in February of 1760. Upon his return voyage he was overhauled by an English fleet, and lost his life in the combat which followed.

“ proper Compensation, for the Expences incurred by  
“ the Respective Provinces in the Levying Cloathing  
“ and Pay of the Troops raised by the same accord-  
“ ing as the Active Vigour and strenuous Efforts of  
“ the respective Provinces shall justly Appear to Merit.  
G. R.

Ordered Nem. Con.

“ That his Majesty’s most Gracious Message be  
“ referred to the Consideration of the Committee of  
“ the Whole House to whom it is referred to Con-  
“ sider further of the Supply Granted to his Majesty.

31<sup>st</sup> March.

M<sup>r</sup> West according to Order, reported from the Committee of the whole House to whom it was referred to Consider farther of the Supply Granted to his Majesty, this Resolution which the Committee Directed him to Report to the House, which he read in his place and afterwards delivered at the Table where the same was read and Agreed to by the House and is as follows.

“ *Resolved* that a Sum not Exceeding Two Hun-  
“ dred Thousand Pounds be Granted to his Majesty  
“ upon Acco<sup>t</sup> to Enable his Majesty to Give a proper  
“ Compensation to the Respective Provinces in  
“ North America for the Expences incurred by them  
“ in the Levying Cloathing and pay of the Troops  
“ raised by the same according as the Active Vigour  
“ and strenuous Efforts of the respective Provinces  
“ shall be thought by his Majesty to Meritt.

You observe the Resolution Expressly Mentions

the *Levy*ing *Cloathing* and *Pay* So that you will with all Expedition furnish me with an Account of the Number of Men raised, and the Expences Sustained in those Articles agreeable to my request in former Letters.<sup>1</sup>

This being Easter week the Parliament and most of the Publick Offices are shut therefore can send you no further Account of your money till the Exchequer is opened which will be next week but the Pacquett being Expected to be made up to day I thought it necessary to take this Opportunity of Acquainting you with the above and am with great Respect Gent

Y<sup>r</sup> Ass<sup>d</sup> and Obliged Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

AUSTIN-FRYERS.

12<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Mo. April 1760.

To The Gov<sup>r</sup> and Co. of the Colony of Rhode-  
Island and Providence Plantations in America.

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Resp<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>*

My last was 24<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>.<sup>2</sup> per New York Pacquett, some time after the Meeting of the Lords of the Treasury I obtained a Reference of my Petition <sup>3</sup> to the Pay-Master Generals Secretary at Warr and now it lays at the Warr Office before the proper Officer

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<sup>1</sup> See note on p. 297.

<sup>2</sup> Not in the archives.

<sup>3</sup> For reimbursement for the campaign of 1756.

whose duty it is to Examine such Accounts, several Objections are made to some of the Items contained therein particularly the Want of Rufus Hopkin's<sup>1</sup> Account which is therein ment<sup>d</sup> to be annexed but no such Account sent also there is no Receipt or Voucher for any overplus Stores or Provisions which were delivered to the King's Comm<sup>rs</sup> nor any Credit given for any Sum received by the Colony on that Account if any such were Received Also the Charge for the Subsistence of the Men Amounting to about £1000. Sterling ought not to be Allowed according to the Words of the Secretary of States Letter to the Colony.

I shall Endeavour to Obviate as many of these Objections as I possibly can but some of them are Insurmountable however I hope we shall obtain payment deducting for some of these exceptionable Articles.

As to Publick Affairs our present Sovereign King George the third, has been Proclaimed in all the Considerable Places in England. The Parliament is sitting nothing Occurs respecting the Colonies. Yesterday his Majesty went to the House of Lords and gave his Royal Assent to sev<sup>l</sup> Bills. No Measures taken by the Treasury Board respecting the Distribution of the last Grant.

A very formidable Armament is just fitted out on a Secret Expedition.<sup>1</sup> No signs of Peace. The King of Prussia has obtained a Compleat Victory over the Austrians under Marshall Daun.

The Earl of Leicester Pacquett is lately Arrived from New York but no Letters from thee which is a

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<sup>1</sup> Hopkins was commissary for Rhode Island.

great Disappointment to me as I hoped to Receive  
by it the Accounts I have so often mentioned. I am  
with great regard to thy self and the Gent of the  
General Assembly their and thy

Ass<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

AUSTIN-FRYERS. 10 Dec<sup>r</sup> 1760.

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SAMUEL WARD TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

PROVIDENCE 2<sup>d</sup> January 1761

*Gentlemen*

As Governor Hopkins has made a Proposal for  
terminating the party Disputes in the Colony<sup>1</sup> by  
resigning his Pretensions to the Government in Con-  
dition that I will do the same It may expected that  
I should make some Reply to a Proposal so uncom-  
mon and extraordinary I must therefore beg Leave  
to say that I never opposed that Gentleman from  
any ambitious or interested Views but as under his  
Administration the public Good in my Opinion has  
been much neglected and some extraordinary Mea-  
sures repugnant to the Wellbeing of the Kingdom  
in General and of this Colony in particular have  
been pursued I thought it my Duty to oppose him ;  
This I at first did in Favor of our late worthy Gov-  
ernor M<sup>r</sup> Greene And upon his Decease being

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<sup>1</sup> Since the death of Governor Greene, in February, 1758, Hopkins had been annually elected to that office, but each election was the signal for such an outburst of virulence and ill-feeling that, shortly before the election of 1761, Hopkins offered to withdraw his candidature provided that Ward would do the same. In the document printed above, we have Ward's answer to the proposal. In May Hopkins was again elected. See Field, *State of Rhode Island*, I. 207, 208.



strongly solicited by some Gentlemen of Rank and Character I became Candidate for the Office of chief Magistrate And if I had been placed in that high Station I should have endeavoured to heal all our Divisions and reconcile all Parties by an equal and just Administration With these Views Gentlemen I have acted But as I am thoroughly sensible of the Inconveniencies attending our unhappy Disputes I shall chearfully concur in any just and reasonable Measures for restoring Peace and good Order to the Colony But as the Right of electing General Officers now is and I hope for ever will remain in the Freemen of the Colony I cant conceive that M<sup>r</sup> Hopkins or I have any Authority to say who they shall or shall not give their Votes for without a manifest Invasion of their Privileges. But at the same Time if the Gentlemen of the Colony are of Opinion that my declining a public Office will promote the Peace and Welfare of the Government I will readily and chearfully resign all my Pretensions to any public Post whatever contenting myself with rendering in a private Capacity what Service I can to the Community of which I am a Member But if the Freemen of the Colony think it most for their Interest to place me in a public Station I shall think it my indispensable Duty to submit to their Appointment and do them all the Service in my Power I am Gentlemen

Your most obedient Servant

SAM WARD

To the honble the Members of both Houses not in their public Capacity but as some of the principal Gentleman of the Colony

JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

The foregoing is Triplicate of my last the Duplicate I Apprehend Miscarried. My Petition is Reported upon by the Paymaster General and Secretary at Warr and sent back to the Treasury, a Copy of which together with the Observations which I have Exhibited by way of Reply comes herewith.<sup>1</sup> I have also Presented a Memorial for our Share of the Grant of last Sessions. The House of Commons have Voted another £200.000 for the American Colonies.

I have had nothing from you for a long time, not so much as an Acknowledgement of the Receipt of the money, I am ready to Conclude some Letters to me have Miscarried, be that as it may *Interim* I am much at loss for want of Advices. I am with Great Regard to the Gentlemen of the General Assembly and thyself

Their and Thy Ass<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

31<sup>st</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1761.

*Report of the Secretary at War upon the Petition of Joseph Sherwood.*<sup>2</sup>

Secretary at War and Paymaster Generals Report to the Treasury,  
on the Petition of Joseph Sherwood, Agent for Rhode-Island.

*May it please your Lordships.*

In Obedience to your Lordships desire (Signified to us by M<sup>r</sup> Martin, Your Lordships Secretary) that We should Examine into the Particulars of the Petition of M<sup>r</sup> Joseph Sherwood Agent to

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<sup>1</sup> See the following document.

<sup>2</sup> Enclosed with letter of January 31, 1761.

the Colony of Rhode Island, and Report to your Lordships Our Opinion thereupon, We lay before your Lordships the following Observations, Viz:

That, as no Original Bills, Receipts or Papers, have been Produced to Support the Several Articles of the Account, annexed to the Petition, We have therefore had no Opportunity of Ascertaining the Correctness and Truth of the Matters Contained therein, but the Validity of the whole, Rests Solely on the Faith of the Seal of the Colony.

That, not any Notice is taken of Stores, either of Provisions or Artillery Remaining after the Troops returned home, tho' We Apprehend it likely, there were some of both kinds, For the Value of which, the Public should have had Credit; and have had in former Demands of this Nature.

That there are Several unusual, unmilitary Species of Provisions and Stores in the Account, unknown to Regular Armies, as, Coffee, Tea, Chocolate, Sugar, Hams, Knives, Forks, Spoons, Plates, Soap &c<sup>a</sup> which, as they cou'd not be intended for the Soldier, if the Officer choose such Indulgencies. they shou'd have been borne from his Pay.

Lastly, the Petition Sets forth that by a Circular Letter from the Secretary of State to the Northern Colonies, dated the 13<sup>th</sup> of March 1756<sup>1</sup> it was Signified to them, That the Raising the Men, their Pay, Arms, and Cloathing wou'd be all that wou'd be Required of the Colonies, The Account Contains a Considerable Charge for Subsistence 'till the Men arrived at Albany, and from the time they left the Camp, till they were discharged at home, Which Charge is Contrary to the Tenor of the said Letter, And Amounts to the sum of £1209.14

To these Several Observations and Objections, the Petitioner has replied, That the Several Species of Provisions taken Notice of, were for the Use of the Hospital, and that others as Unusual, as Ginger, Cyder, Vinegar, Onyons were Charged by, and allow'd to the Colony of Connecticut, and also a Considerable sum for Pay of Commissioners Appointed to Manage and direct the Affairs of their Troops; for which the Colony of Rhode Island, makes no Demand.

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, V. 485.

Upon the Whole, We Humbly Report to Your Lordships, that the Account Circumstanced and Authenticated, as aforesaid is fairly and Exactly Stated, and according to the Rates of the Several Currencies therein, Amounts to £4,211.19.7; From which the Charge of Subsistence being Subtracted there will remain £3002.5.7 which will be due and Payable to the Colony of Rhode Island, if your Lordships are Pleased to Admitt and Accept of the Reply made by the Petitioner to the other Particulars.

Which is Humbly Submitted to Your Lordships.

(Signed) H. Fox  
BARRINGTON.

Janry 19<sup>th</sup> 1761.

*Observations of the Agent for Rhode Island on the Report of the Paymaster General and Secretary at War to Remove the Objections contained in said Report.*

Original Bills, or Receipts, were not Expected to be called for, nor were they Produced by the other Colonies, nor could they, as the Several Matters were bought in small Quantities of a Great Number of People, But the Account is Verified by the Oath of the Gov<sup>r</sup> who was Chairman of the Committee of War who Swears that the Provisions &c contained in the Account were Supplied and paid for by the said Colony.

It is probable there was no Remains of Provisions after the Troops returned home and as for Artillery Stores great part of them Appear on the face of the Account to be *bona peritura* or Goods that would soon be Used and Consumed and such of them as do not come under that Description were without doubt added to the Kings Magazines as the Rest of the Colonies were and the not sending any Receipt or Voucher must be an Accidental Omission which it is hoped will not Operate to the Disadvantage of the Colony more Especially as the whole Account is verified upon Oath as aforesaid.

The Species of Provisions and Stores Objected to were Intended for the Sick and Wounded, and the same kinds of Provisions were Supplied by the other Colonies for the same Purpose, and Reimbursed by the Crown.

The Charge for Subsistence of the Men (which is Objected to by the said Report) is not in Lieu of Pay but their Provisions

from the time of Raising the Men in each Township to the time they reached the Rendesvouz at Albany the Place where (it is Apprehended) the Stores of each kind charged in the Account were sent now, as it was Impracticable to Provide each Man Raised in the Different parts of the Colony with these Identical Provisions on their Immediate Inlistment, the money charged in the Account was paid them in Lieu of Provision and is very properly called Subsistance (that is) to Support them till they reached the Magazines and is an Expence w<sup>ch</sup> his Majesty was pleased to Engage to Reimburse And what Elucidates this matter is the Agreement Entred into between the sev<sup>l</sup> Colonies and the King's Comm<sup>rs</sup> in the Ensuing Campaigns for after Provisions &c. were Provided at Albany pursuant to the Royal Pleasure at the Expence of the Crown the Men raised by the sev<sup>l</sup> Colonies could not partake of these Provisions till they reached the Magazines and therefore were Allowed Subsistance in pay in Lieu of Provisions untill they Arrived there and such Allowances were in the Subsequent Campaigns Reimbursed by the King's Commissioners to the several Colonies.



JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

Notwithstanding the most Assiduous and Constant Application and having Obtained the Report on my Petition as Inclosed the Lords of the Treasury<sup>1</sup> seem greatly Disposed to make Use of the Difficulty's raised therein and to give us the go by. They Say this Account is a matter not Proper to be Recommended to his Majesty for Reimbursement, I have drawn up an Additional Memorial and pre-

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<sup>1</sup> See the preceding document.

sented, being Determined nothing shall be wanting on my part tho' I very much doubt the Success of it as the Government have such Immence and Innumerable calls for money and have so lately Granted other sums to the Northern Colonies.

Nevertheless if I am Furnished with Sufficient materials from you to Remove the Objections contained in this Report I will (if it is Practicable) revive the Solicitation again altho' it should be Absolutely Quashed at this time.

It is matter of Astonishment to me that I have received no Answers to any of my Letters.

A Distribution of the £200,000 Granted for 1759 is Expected soon.

Both Houses of Parliament are now sitting in which Nothing has ben done materially to Affect the Colonies save what I have advised of, the Sessions are expected to be over in about a Month when a New Parliament is to be Elected and the People begin to be very Busy about Electioneering. No Signs of Peace.

No material alterations among the Great all the Judges have had their Commissions renewed as also the Governors &c<sup>a</sup> of the Colonies. We have just received an Express from Germany for the Particulars whereof and the other Current News of the Town I referr to the Inclosed Prints of which I desire the Favourable acceptance and am with great Esteem

and regard to thyself and the Gent of the General Assembly

Their and thy Ass<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

3<sup>d</sup> March 1761.

To STEPH<sup>N</sup> HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>.

Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Colony of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations in America.



JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Resp<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>*

I wrote thee by the last Packett mentioning the Receipt of thy Favours of 31<sup>st</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> last. The General Account of your Operations in 1759 contained in the first is very Instructing and would have been of good Service had it Arrived in Time but the Lords of the Treasury made the return of General Amherst the Standard of their Allottment which return Consisted, not, of the Men actually sent into the Field, but of the Numbers Voted by each Assembly. Intimation was given to them that most of the Colonies were Deficient in sending the whole Number Voted, but that Objection was Answered by Alledging that those Deficiencys were in every one of the Colonies near equally proportionable to the Troops Voted in each respective Colony. and which I Apprehend was pretty much the Case in the Year 1759 you being 150 Deficient and if your De-

ficiencys in that year were much less than the rest of the Colonys it wo<sup>d</sup> have been necessary to Instruct me not only, what your Number were, but also what the Neighbouring Colonies sent out which if [it] had Arrived before the Allottment I wo<sup>d</sup> have made a proper use of. As I am so Seldom Favoured with Letters from thee I hope thou wilt hereafter send Triplicates of every Letter (at least during the Continuance of the Warr.) I note your Observation respecting the late Distribution and apprehend the money was Allotted ratably according to the Number of Troops Voted by each Colony and Underneath I send the Account of the Troops Voted for 1759 as Appears by the return of General Amherst.<sup>1</sup>

The Account Amounting to £281.1.6. for Marine Service<sup>2</sup> is not come to hand I hope it will be Transmitted as soon as possible and then I will make the proper Application.

I Expect the Letter of Attorney will Answer all purposes Intended now, being so amply Confirmed by thy Letter of 17<sup>th</sup> Jan :

The Information respecting the Campaign 1760 is very seasonable and acceptable I think it is very equitable that the Troops really sent into the Field and not the Troops Voted ought to be the Measure of Distribution more especially when some of the Colonies fall so far short of the Numbers Voted.

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 322.

<sup>2</sup> The agent was directed to ask 40s. per head for the seamen sent up the St. Lawrence in 1759. See *Coi. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 241 and 254.



Some of our Leading Men have taken great Disgust at the Trade with the French ment<sup>d</sup> in thy Letter and said to be carried on by the Northern Colonies. many Appeals<sup>1</sup> are depending respecting Condemnations of Ships in that Trade I dont hear that any English Appeals have been Determined yet, the Condemnation of those Vessells I think may Appease their wrath and that it will not be Extended to any Parliamentary Prohibition. However if any Application sho<sup>d</sup> be made to Parliament I will most certainly do my utmost for your Benefit and give you Notice.

I have received the Warrant for the £9328.<sup>2</sup> but when the money will be Received is Doubtfull. We may Receive it, perhaps in One, peradventure not in three Months. The many and Various Calls on the Publick for money Occasion these delays. It was hinted to us by one of the Senior Clerks of the Treasury as if we sho<sup>d</sup> soon Receive half our Money and be Oblidged to accept Government Securitys for the other Moiety payable, at some future day with Interest. However we are at present in a State of uncertainty so soon as it is fixed I will give you Information.

I have not the least Instructions respecting the Disposition of this money when it is Received you

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<sup>1</sup> See vote of the Assembly, October, 1760. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 259; also letter of Hopkins to Pitt, *Ibid.*, VI. 263.

<sup>2</sup> Rhode Island's share of the grant of 1760. Out of the grant for 1759 she received £8798.

will therefore on Receipt of this send me your Determination in that behalf and if you shall Resolve to draw Bills on me for it, I must Intreat you will be carefull not to send these Bills till you are Assured the money is Actually Received or Receivable by me as it will be extremely Difficult for me to Provide for such a Sum out of any other Fund.

By my Letters<sup>1</sup> and Duplicates of the 16<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> Jan<sup>ry</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup> March thou wilt see my Progress in the Affair of the Crown Point Expedition which now lays in the same manner as when I wrote last on that Subject I hope you will Speedily furnish me with Answers to the Objections Raised and then I shall Continue my Application but I do Assure you it is Up-Hill-work to pursue such matters at this particular Juncture.

By my Letter and Duplicate of the 8<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> I sent my Account with the Colony but as no mention is made of the Receipt of it I Inclose a third. I am with great respect to the Gent of the General Assembly and thy self their and

Thy Ass<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

AUSTIN-FRYERS

30 May 1761.

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<sup>1</sup> See pp. 313, 316 for the last two mentioned.

General Amherst's Return.

Massachusetts . . . . .	6500 Men
Connecticut . . . . .	5000
New Hampshire . . . . .	1200
Rhode Island . . . . .	1000
New York . . . . .	2680
New Jersey . . . . .	1000
Pennsylvania . . . . .	3300
Virginia . . . . .	1200
<hr/>	
Total	21880

To STEPH<sup>N</sup> HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Colony of Rhode-Island.

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

Many of the Colony Bills have been presented. all those of 10 Days I have accepted, some of the 60 days Date I have Sufferred to be protested in Order to see what may turn out between this and the Time of their coming due; Yet I shall Endeavour to take Care of them and not Suffer them to return but I fear it will be Attended with loss to the Colony.<sup>1</sup>

The House of Commons has Voted £133,000 for the American Colonies to be Divided according to the respective Meritt of each.

Great Preparations are making in the Privateering way for Annoying the Spaniards.

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<sup>1</sup> See Governor Ward's letter of August 6, 1762.

Notwithstanding all I could do the Lords of the Treasury Resolved that they wo<sup>d</sup> not Agree to my Application to Parliament for your Expences in 1756.

I Deferr sending a Copy of the Navy Bill till next Opportunity.

Both Houses of Parliament are sitting nothing arises therein relating to the Colonies except what I have mentioned The Late Attorney Gen<sup>l</sup> is made Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.<sup>1</sup> The Soll<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> is made Attny Gen<sup>l</sup> and Fletcher Norton Esq<sup>r</sup> an Eminent King's Council is made Soll<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> I am

Thy respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

6<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1762.

TO STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Colony of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations in America.

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SAMUEL WARD TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.<sup>2</sup>

EAST GREENWICH 26. February 1762.

*Gentlemen*

That the present Party Disputes now unhappily subsisting in this Colony are very injurious to the

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<sup>1</sup> Hon. Charles Pratt became Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and Mr. Yorke Attorney-General.

<sup>2</sup> See Ward's letter of January 2, 1761, declining a proposal from Hopkins which was similar to this in general tenor, although not in detail. Hopkins refused to entertain this proposition.

publick every sensible Man must be convinced and it is the Duty of every Person who wishes well to the Colony to endeavour to put a Period to them I humbly propose the following Plan and heartily wish it may effectually answer that desirable end.

1<sup>st</sup> That Governor Hopkins and myself respectively resign our Pretensions to the Office of Governor

2<sup>d</sup> As the Town of Newport is the Metropolis of the Colony and pays one fifth of all publick Taxes it appears reasonable that the Governor should reside there and altho I am very far from prescribing to the Freemen of the Colony in the Choice of their Officers I must beg leave to say that I shall be much pleased to see the honorable Gideon Wanton Esq<sup>r</sup> fill the Chair and hope the Freemen will appoint that Gentleman or some other in Newport capable of sustaining that Important Post with Ability

3<sup>d</sup> I think it equally reasonable that the Deputy Governor should reside in Providence as that place for Number of Inhabitants and its extensive Commerce is the second in the Colony and altho I am sensible I have no other Right to nominate than any other Freeman of the Colony I flatter myself that my acknowledging that Nicholas Cook Esq<sup>r</sup> or Daniel Jencks Esq<sup>r</sup> or some other Gentleman of equal merit would in my Opinion give a general Satisfaction in that honorable Place will give Offence to no Person

4. I beg leave to add that the Magistrates be equally chosen out of the two contending Parties and if this Plan be acceptable to the General Assembly

and adopted by Governor Hopkins I will chearfully resign all my Pretensions to the Chair and shall think myself very happy in having had a small Share in restoring Harmony and Unanimity to the Colony<sup>1</sup>  
I am Gentlemen

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

SAM WARD

To the Honorable the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly

A true Copy of the Original is on File in my Office.  
Witness HENRY WARD Secretary.

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INSTRUCTIONS OF GOVERNOR WARD TO COLONEL ROSE.<sup>2</sup>

By the Honb<sup>l</sup>e Samuel Ward Esq<sup>r</sup> Governor, Captain General and Commander in Chief of and over the English Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England in America.

Instructions to be observed by Samuel Rose Esq<sup>r</sup> Colonel of the <sup>8</sup> Regiment raised in this Colony to be Employed in North America in such manner as his Majesty's Commander in Chief shall think fit until the first day of November next unless sooner lawfully discharged

1<sup>st</sup> You are to embrace the first suitable Weather and with such

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<sup>1</sup> In the next election (May, 1762) Ward was elected governor.

<sup>2</sup> Rose was colonel of the regiment voted in December, 1761. See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 300; and Arnold, *Rhode Island*, II. 234.

<sup>8</sup> War had been declared against Spain as the aggressive ally of France, in January, 1762. See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 298. Pitt had resigned in the preceding October, and the Earl of Egremont became Secretary of State, and reaped the benefits of Pitt's talent for organization, and also of the spirit of enterprise and enthusiasm with which he had imbued both the army and the naval service. The French West Indies were the point of attack. Martinique surrendered on February 14. See General Amherst's letters in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 310, 312. Amherst's letter requesting a levy of two hundred and seven men follows. *Ibid.*, VI. 310. The Assembly had voted a regiment of six hundred and sixty-six men in December, and added one hundred and seventy-eight in March. *Ibid.*, 300, 305, 316. The "expedition of the utmost importance" to which Amherst refers was the reduction of Cuba. The Rhode Island troops were ordered to Albany.

part of the aforesaid Regiment as hath not already been sent forward in the Vessels provided by this Government and proceed directly to Albany. And at all Times You with the Forces under Your Command are to observe such Instruction and Orders as shall be given You by His Majesty's Commander in Chief in North America

2<sup>nd</sup> During the Voyage to Albany and Your Continuance in the Service You are to use Your utmost care and Diligence that the Forces under Your Command be supplied with Necessaries of all sorts and in every respect well treated that they may be in good order and full of spirit and Vigour. This will highly Conduce to His Majesty's Service and Your Own Honor

3<sup>rd</sup> You are to take particular care that none of the Arms Accoutrements nor any other Articles with which the said Troops shall be supplied be wasted lost or Embezzled. This I recommend to You strongly as heretofore the Colony hath suffered greatly upon that Account. And further You are to take notice that each officer by Act of Assembly is made accountable for all the Arms and Accoutrements he shall receive.

4<sup>th</sup> You are from time to time to give notice to Your Constituents of every thing Material respecting the said Troops so long as they shall Continue under Your Command

Given under my Hand and Seal this Seventeenth day of May 1762 and in the second Year of the Reign of His most Sacred Majesty George the Third by the Grace of God King of Great Britain

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GOVERNOR WARD TO NATHANIEL MUMFORD.<sup>1</sup>

WESTERLY July 1<sup>st</sup> 1762

*Sir*

You'll receive herewith the Billeting Rolls<sup>2</sup> for the Years 1757, 61 and 62 amounting in the whole to

<sup>1</sup> Mumford would seem to have been a person of little importance. No reference to him is found save in connection with this affair, and a statement in Arnold's *Rhode Island*, II. 413, that in 1778 he was state clothier for the troops.

<sup>2</sup> See enclosure.

£1858.10.7½ Sterl<sup>s</sup> with which You will immediately proceed to New York and wait on his Excellency General Amherst<sup>1</sup> And as you are sensible that the Government is in the greatest Want of the Money You'll exert your utmost Endeavours to obtain it and at the same Time will transact the Business with all possible dispatch and Oeconomy that the Government may receive their Money with as little Expence as may be. The Rolls for the Year 1757 should have been presented long since<sup>2</sup> but the General's Candor will not permit the Government to suffer by a Neglect which they often complained of but could not prevent

In the Year 1761 the Soldiers were not discharged until some Time after their Return from Fort Stanwix<sup>3</sup> and had billeting allowed them in the mean Time but as those Rolls are not returned me I could not send them You may however mention them to the General and receive his Directions concerning them.

I am in Hopes you'll receive the Money in New York without any Delay or Difficulty but if the Affair cannot be accomplished without going to Albany it will be better to proceed there than to return without the Money<sup>4</sup>

You'll receive Gold, Silver or Bills of Exchange; if Silver it will be for the Governments Interest to exchange it for Gold if you can conveniently Gold

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<sup>1</sup> See the orders of the Assembly, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 322.

<sup>2</sup> *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 327.

<sup>3</sup> The new fort built by Brigadier Stanwix at the Great Carrying Place on the Mohawk, in 1758.

<sup>4</sup> See Ward's letter to Amherst of September 6, 1762, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 338.



being higher here in Proportion to Silver than in New York and whatever Money you receive you will on your Return to Newport lodge in the General Treasury there

I am &c

S WARD

[Enclosure.]

Billeting Rolls for 1757 of Dan<sup>l</sup> Wall's Comp<sup>y</sup>

amounted to Sterl <sup>rs</sup>	£89. 6.3½
Ebenezer Whittings Company	49.17.1½
Jeremiah Greeness Comp <sup>y</sup>	85.18.3½
John Whittings's Comp <sup>y</sup>	123. 0.7
Ebinezer Jencks Comp <sup>y</sup>	91. 6.—
	<hr/> £439. 8.3½

Bille<sup>ts</sup> Rolls for 1761 of Soldiers enlisted by Cap:  
Tibbets Hopkins and Lieu<sup>t</sup> Asa Bowdish

amounted to	£51. 4.—
Ditto by Cap <sup>t</sup> Lieu <sup>t</sup> Tho <sup>s</sup> Fry	5.15.4
Cap <sup>t</sup> Giles Russells's Comp <sup>y</sup>	60. 1.
Maj <sup>r</sup> Christ : Hargills Comp <sup>y</sup>	68.12.4
Col <sup>o</sup> John Whittings Comp <sup>y</sup>	64.17 —
Lieu <sup>t</sup> Col <sup>o</sup> Sam. Rose's Comp <sup>y</sup>	66.— 4
Sold <sup>rs</sup> enlisted by Cap <sup>t</sup> Nath <sup>l</sup> Peck, Lieut <sup>s</sup> Jon <sup>s</sup> } Spears and Abraham Hawkins and Ens <sup>n</sup> } Comfort Carpenter	41. 0.4
Cap <sup>t</sup> Asa Kimbal Comp <sup>y</sup>	58. 1.4
Cap <sup>t</sup> Nath <sup>l</sup> Pecks Comp <sup>y</sup>	36.14.8
	<hr/> £452. 6.4

Billeting paid the Soldiers after their Return in  
1761 till they were discharged, by Rob<sup>t</sup> Pot- }  
ter Esq<sup>r</sup>. } £6.11.8

Billeting Roll<sup>s</sup> 1762 Sold<sup>rs</sup> enlisted by Cap<sup>t</sup> }  
Giles Russel Lieu<sup>t</sup> Hez<sup>k</sup> Saunders and Ens<sup>n</sup> } 81.19.8  
Jn<sup>o</sup> Teff. }

D <sup>o</sup> by Lieu <sup>ts</sup> Tho <sup>s</sup> Cotterell Edw <sup>d</sup> Cross and	}	103.16.8
Moses Warren . . . . .		
D <sup>o</sup> by Lieu <sup>ts</sup> Sam. Thornton W <sup>m</sup> Henenden and	}	138.16.4
Asa Kimbal and Ensigns Jon. Millard and		
Simeon Stevens . . . . .		
Maj <sup>r</sup> Pecks Company . . . . .		108.11.—
Cap <sup>t</sup> Tho <sup>s</sup> Tews Comp <sup>y</sup> . . . . .		58. 6.—
Lieu <sup>t</sup> Col <sup>o</sup> Hargills Comp <sup>y</sup> . . . . .		56.17.8
Col <sup>o</sup> Sam. Roses Comp <sup>y</sup> . . . . .		176. 5.—
Sol <sup>d</sup> enlis <sup>d</sup> by Cap <sup>t</sup> Tho <sup>s</sup> Fay and Lieu <sup>t</sup> Asa	}	104.13.8
Bowdish . . . . .		
Cap <sup>t</sup> Abraham Hawkins Comp <sup>y</sup> . . . . .		61.10.—
Sol <sup>ds</sup> enlist <sup>d</sup> by Cap <sup>t</sup> Fay Lieu <sup>t</sup> Asa Bowdish	}	69. 8.4
and Josiah Hopkins . . . . .		
		966.16.0

COLONEL ROSE<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR WARD.

FORT STANWIX July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1762

*Honoured S<sup>r</sup>*

I here send you inclosed A General Return of the Regiment,<sup>2</sup> I doubt not but you will be surprised when you see so large A number deserted in Rhode Island, but according to the returns given to me it appears by Cap<sup>t</sup> Hawkins Return; that twenty two deserted from him in the company raised at Providence, which in my Oppinion ought to be Enquired into, the Commanding Officers of companys having so large A Latitude in paying Bountys and other Stoppages, which is very Obstructive I imagine to the interest of the Colony and Good of his Majestys Service. Colonel Whiting<sup>3</sup> applied to me when he was

<sup>1</sup> See note to letter of May 17, 1762.

<sup>2</sup> See enclosure.

<sup>3</sup> This proceeding was in accord with the vote of Assembly. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 316.

here for Liberty to Recruit in the Reg<sup>t</sup>, which I granted but he never applied to my knowled. if the Government thinks proper towards the Last of the campaign, that Men should be raised here to compleat the Quota demanded by his Majesty; I think that some Officers being appointed that is now in the Reg<sup>t</sup> would answer the End better than A Gentleman that is in direct opposition to the interest of most Officers present. if you have any thing Matterial to communicate to the Reg<sup>t</sup> you will have an Oppertunity by the Return of the post which is all from Yours to Serve whilst

SAM<sup>L</sup> ROSE

To the Honorable SAM<sup>L</sup> WARD  
Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island

[Enclosure.]

*A General Return of the Rhode Island Regiment Fort Stanwix  
July 5<sup>th</sup> 1762.*

Colonel	Maj <sup>r</sup>	Capt <sup>s</sup>	Lieut <sup>s</sup>	Ensigns	Serjt <sup>s</sup>	Rank and file in camp	Left Sick at R: Island	Deserted in Rhode Island	Deserted on the passage	<div>71 8 6 1</div>
1	1	2	9	4	22	332	6	45	5	427

L<sup>t</sup> Colonel Hargil<sup>s</sup> Detachment being compleated at  
N: York to . . . . . 217  
Total Officers included . . . 644  
SAM<sup>L</sup> ROSE

JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR WARD.

*Resp<sup>d</sup> Friend.*

Being Informed thou art Elected Governor of the Colony I take the Liberty of Addressing thee on the Publick Concerns.

[I Received sometime ago from the late Governor Information respecting the Martial Operations of the Colony for the Year 1760,<sup>1</sup> by which I Understood that you had in that Year sent into the Field very near the Number of Men Voted, and that several other of the Colonies had fallen far short of the Number Voted, and Directed me to make Representations thereof to the Treasury Board, which I accordingly did and Objected to a Distribution on the same Plan as the Preceeding Year which Distribution was according to the Number of Men Voted by each Province, the same Objection was also made by some of the Agents for the other Colonies, *Whereupon* their Lordships told us that as they had no return from General Amherst of the Forces Actually in the Service they could pay no regard to our Private Intelligence, and unless we could Agree among Ourselves we must wait till the Generals return could be obtained which would take up a Considerable time. It was thereupon Proposed that a part of the Grant for 1760 should Remain in the Treasury to attend the Event of the Claims of any of the Colonys to any Superior or Extra Services which was approved by their Lordships and the sum of £10,000 was thought a proper sum for that Purpose, And the

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<sup>1</sup> See letter of May 30, 1761.

money has accordingly been Distributed as before Deducting from each Colony one Twentieth part, I have this day received for you £8861.12s. which waits for your Orders, And as to the £10.000 which is to be Distributed among the Colonies by the General's Return I request that you will as Early as Possible Obtain a Copy of such return and if any Error or Oversight should be in to get it Corrected therefor the Generals return is most likely to be the Rule which the Lords will Determine the Claims by.<sup>1</sup>

The Harriot Pacquet from New-York being Chased by a Privateer threw her Dispatches over Board so that I have received no Advice from the Colony.

There was much talk of a Negotiation for Peace a few days ago but it seems now to Subside.<sup>2</sup> I am with great Regard to the Gentlemen of the General Assembly and thyself

Their and Thy respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

AUSTIN-FRYERS.

31<sup>st</sup> July 1762.

To SAM<sup>L</sup> WARD Esq<sup>r</sup>

Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Colony of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations

America.

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<sup>1</sup> See the vote of Assembly upon the matter, in October, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 341; and the letters exchanged between Ward and Amherst of November 11 and 21, *Ibid.*, VI. 343, 344.

<sup>2</sup> Moro Castle surrendered July 30, after a siege of six weeks. Havana capitulated two weeks later.

LIEUTENANT EDMUND NEWLAND<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR WARD.

*Sir,*

I had an Order the other Day from the General to send all the Recruits I had musterd to N York immediatly and to remain here till I had receivd the whole. I am very sorry to find the Recruiting Service has been carried on with less Success in this Colony then in any of the others and am Apprehensive the Gen<sup>l</sup> will imagine it must proceed from some Neglect of mine or coolness somewhere else.

I have made it my Business to enquire how this Affair is conducted in other Places and have concluded to acquaint you with the Method taken in Connecticutt which I hope youl approve of as it appears to me to be the most prudent: The Officer appointed by the Gen<sup>l</sup> to muster the Recruits has receivd from Governor Fitch a Number of Blank Beating Orders signd by the Governor which he has taken the Trouble of Distributing in proper Places about the Colony: he has also settled a Method of easily supplying the Persons with Money for carrying on that Service. Now S<sup>r</sup> if you approve of this Method and will be kind enough to let me know it, I will wait on you at any time you think proper in Order to put it (or any other Method you think proper) in Execution,<sup>2</sup> if you do not approve of it, if you would be kind enough to change the Gentlemen at present employd for that Service I should be very

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<sup>1</sup> Newland was of Lieutenant-Colonel Gage's regiment. See Amherst's letter of May 16, 1762, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 319.

<sup>2</sup> Action was taken by the Assembly, as suggested. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 331.

glad as I am certain they give themselves very little Trouble about it and am S<sup>r</sup>

Your most obedient humble Servant

EDMUND NEWLAND L<sup>t</sup> 80<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>

NEWPORT Aug<sup>t</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> 1762



GOVERNOR WARD TO JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

NEWPORT 6<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>th</sup> 1762

*Sir*

Having the Honor to be chosen Governor of this Colony I am now to open a Correspondence with you in Behalf of the Government.

I am very sorry to find by your Letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup><sup>1</sup> last that the Lords of the Treasury would not consent to your applying to Parliament for a Reimbursement of our Expences in 1756 but as some of the other Colonies have already received their Money for the same Services and none of them have exerted themselves more for his Maj<sup>ty</sup> Interest than we have I hope we may yet obtain ours I must therefore desire you to wait a more favourable Opportunity of renewing your Application to the Treasury This is the Advice of Cap<sup>t</sup> Harrison<sup>2</sup> from whom I have lately received a Letter on this Subject

I find by your Letters that the Parliament made a

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 322.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Joseph Harrison was a prominent merchant of Newport, of some repute for his talents as a mathematician. He resided for some years in England. He was Collector of the Port of Boston at the time of the "Boston tea-party." See Ward's letter to Harrison, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 324. See vote of the Assembly, *Ibid.*, VI. 322.

Grant to the Colonies for the Year 1760 and also for 1761 neither of which I suppose were apportioned when you wrote, but as the Colony is in the greatest Want of Money I must recommend it to you to make the most seasonable and diligent Application in Behalf of the Government and to let me know when you have or are likely to receive the Money that the necessary Orders relative to it may be given and no Mistake or Delay happen in the Payment of the Money or Bills; for this purpose I have enclosed you Copies of our Acts for raising Men this Year and last and if you have Occasion for any further Directions upon this or any other of the Colonies Affairs let me know it by first Opportunity and you may depend upon my giving you the most full and timely Accounts

The Government was not well pleased that you suffered any of their Bills to be protested but as you observe in your next Letter that you shall pay them all I hope it may give Satisfaction and prevent the Dishonor which would have been done to the Colony by their Bills being protested.<sup>1</sup>

The last Assembly<sup>2</sup> appointed a Committee to audit your Accounts who will make a Report the next Sessions which will be about a Fortnight hence<sup>3</sup> and I shall then let you know the Resolution of the Government thereon

The last Letter of yours which I have received is dated 27<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 1762<sup>4</sup> and as I dont doubt you have wrote since that Time I must desire you to send

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<sup>1</sup> See letter of February 6, 1762.

<sup>2</sup> No report appears.

<sup>3</sup> The June Assembly of 1762.

<sup>4</sup> Not in the archives.



me Duplicates of all Letters wrote since that nothing may be wanting to promote the Governments Interest

The Agent for the Province of the Massachusetts Bay has wrote to them to draw Bills on him for their Part of the Grant for 1760 and they are now drawing: I should have been greatly pleased if we could have drawn for ours for there never was a Time when the Colony had more Need of Relief from home. The War has brought on us a most amazing Load of Debt<sup>1</sup> and at the same Time by the Loss of the greatest Part of our Trade incapacitated us to pay it; a most extreme Droughth cutt off most of the Crops last Year, a very severe Winter followed Numbers of Cattle died for Want of Hay and the People themselves must have perished if large Supplies had not been procured from the other Colonies: this Year the Droughth is equally or more severe and how the People will be supplied Heaven only knows These peculiar Circumstances of Distress make his Majesty's Favours more immediately necessary I must therefore recommend to you in the strongest Manner the most seasonable and diligent application to the Colony's Business and Interest I am Sir With due Regard

Your most humble Servant

SAM: WARD

P. S With regard to the Men actually enlisted by the Colony the last Year I suppose there was nearly

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<sup>1</sup> There were outstanding, in 1762, over £93,000 in bills of credit in old tenor, £2300 of Crown Point money, and £66,000 of so-called lawful money. See the Report of the Committee on Bills of Credit, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 328.

the same Deficiency in our Troops as in those of the other Governments but this Year we have been so successfull as to enlist the whole Compliment except about fifteen or twenty and they all seasonably arrived at their Places of Destination much to General Amhersts Satisfaction excepting between fifty or sixty sick and Deserters <sup>1</sup>

M<sup>r</sup> JOSEPH SHERWOOD

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GOVERNOR WARD TO COLONEL ROSE.

NEWPORT Sep<sup>r</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1762

*Sir*

I have had the Pleasure of two Letters from you one dated June 3<sup>d</sup> 1762 <sup>2</sup> at Albany acquainting me with your Arrival there and that the Billeting Money was ready Your Attention to the Governments Interest in giving me the earliest Notice of which is very agreeable to me. Your other Letter enclosed me a return of the Regiment <sup>3</sup> but you unhappily forgot to send me the Names of those who deserted on their Passage. I must therefore desire you to write me by the first Opportunity their Names with a description of their Persons that proper Care may be taken to Apprehend them

The Government have ordered a Company of Sixty four Men to be enlisted and with two Officers to be continued in Pay until the first of July next,

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<sup>1</sup> General Amherst's satisfaction will be best appreciated by reading his letters of May 11 and August 4, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 318, 333.

<sup>2</sup> Not in the archives.

<sup>3</sup> See letter of July 5, 1762.

Cap<sup>t</sup> George Cornel by whom you'll receive this Letter and also a Blank Commission for the Officer you may appoint is Chosen Captain of the Company and you are empowered to appoint a Lieutenant and for your Direction in the Affair I have enclosed you a Copy of the Act of Government <sup>1</sup> and doubt not from the Regard which I am sensible you have for his Majestys service but you will use your best endeavours to see it carried into Execution

With Regard to the Regiment under your Command I have only to recommend it to you, the other Officers, and Privates to conduct yourselves in such Manner as may be most for his Majestys Service, the Interest and Honor of the Colony, and your own Reputation I am Sir

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

SAM WARD

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COLONEL JAMES ROBERTSON <sup>2</sup> TO GENERAL AMHERST.

*Sir*

In obedience to Your Commands I have Endeavor'd to recollect all the Circumstances that came to my Notice relative to the Demand made for the Billetting Money of the Rhode Island Regiment in the Year 1757.

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 331, 332; also Amherst's letter of August 4, *Ibid.*, VI. 333.

<sup>2</sup> Robertson was colonel of the 60th or Royal American regiment, and was made deputy quartermaster-general in 1758. In 1762 he went to Martinique, but returned to America and served through the Revolutionary War. In 1780 he received a royal commission as governor of New York.

I remember I Saw these Rolls at M<sup>r</sup> Appy's<sup>1</sup> office in the Year 1758, As I was not then Employed in the Examination of these Papers, I cannot now Particularize the Exceptions that were then Made to the Payment, the Claims were so totally Inadmissible, and the Errors so gross that M<sup>r</sup> Appy Show'd them to me as Curiosities.

I Know Money was advanced by M<sup>r</sup> Kilby at the Earl of Loudoun's desire, because I Stopt the Amount for M<sup>r</sup> Kilby's Use out of a Subsequent Account, and I have some faint Notion that a further Advance was made by the Earl himself, but can't be positive as to this Last.

These Accounts have been twice Lay'd before me, by Your Excellency's Order, with Billetting Rolls for Other Years, the last have all been Examined, and Satisfied, But these of 1757 have been by Your Directions returned, As the Services happened before You Took the Command, and as You had no Access to be Informed of all the Circumstances relative to them.

I have the honor to be Sir,

Your Excellency's Most Ob<sup>t</sup> and

most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JAMES ROBERTSON

NEW YORK, 15<sup>th</sup> Septem: 1762.

To His Excellency Sir JEFFREY AMHERST.

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<sup>1</sup> John Appy, who was secretary to General Abercrombie and to General Amherst.

CAPTAIN CORNELL<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR WARD.

ALBANY the 20 September 1762.

*May it Plese the Honourble Governer,*

I take the Libity of informing the Governer that I have Arivid in albany in 8 days from Rhode Island, I also take the Libity of informing his honour the Governer that I am Like to Be detaind heer in town for this ten Days By Reason of mr Davis Beeing from home at Canderhook. on my ARaivil I wrote him, and sent on, Express with it, and he sends me for anser that he Cant Com home untill Next Saterdag and that he Dose Not Know Wair he Can furnish me with money to Reinlist those men with or Not, I am Afraid that my Being Detaind heer will Be of hurt to my Recruiting and Likewise to the Government A Boot furnishing their men. how Ever, as soon as I Git money I shall Sett out with the Gratest Expidision for fort stanwix and I shall yoose my utmost indevers to Git what men I Can, altho I am Afraid that the Government has Given me most too heard a task to Reinlist those men onely for 5 Dollers A head in Cash, as I am vary shure that those soldiers would Not Be vary fond of taken Cloathing for parts of thir Bountys, for they Know that the Government is Obliged to Let them have what Cloase they want upon thir Wages. But however I Shall youse my Best indeavors to Raise as

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<sup>1</sup> George Cornell was appointed a second lieutenant in the Rhode Island regiment of 1759, and was stationed at Fort Stanwix through the spring of 1762. See his letter of April 14, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 312. In August he was made captain of the company at Stanwix, which was to be reënlisted for service until July, 1763. *Ibid.*, VI. 332.

many as I Can with what provisions the Government has maid so soon as I Receive money from M<sup>r</sup> Davis, But if the Government would be plese to ALow and order the other 5 Dollers to Be paid in Cash Which is the same Bountey, as what them soldiers had that stayd the Last wintor, if the Government will Be plese to ALow that and will send the money time ANouhgt to my assistunce I will Be Bound to Reinlist all the men By the [time?] Governm<sup>t</sup> has orderd

May it Plese the Honourble Governor.

I Dont find as the Government has maid Any provisions for A Doctor to Look after those men in Case any of them should prove sickly I there fore Dont know how to Conduct my self in this Afair and I should take it as A Pertickler favour and as A marke of frindship if his honour the Governor will Be so kind as to send me A Letter and orders how I Shall Conduct my self I am verry shure if the Regular Doctors are imployd, and ALowd to ask as much as they have A mind, they will take Care to Be Vary Exstravacant in thir Accompts.<sup>1</sup>

I also have the pleasure of informing his honour the Govener that I wated upon his Excellency Sir Jff<sup>r</sup> Amherst with the Letter from his honour and Likewise from M<sup>r</sup> Eaton. his Excellancy was vary fond of the soldiers which I Card him and sais he has not seen so many Good men this som time

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<sup>1</sup> See Ward's letter of December 28, 1762, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 346.

I hope his honour the Governor will Be so kind as  
to write me, and permit me to stile my self

Your Honours Ever Faithfull Frind and  
vary Humble servant

GEO : CORNELL

Cap<sup>t</sup> of the Rhodeislanders

To the Honourble SAMUEL WARD Esq  
Governor of the Coloney of Rhodeisland

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR WARD.

*Resp<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>*

Foregoing is Duplicate of my last, since which  
the House of Commons has been pleased to Vote  
another sum of £133,000 for the Provinces in North  
America to be Distributed according to their Active  
Vigour and Meritt as before.

I have Exhibited a Memorial to the Lords of the  
Treasury for your Share of the Grant for 1761,  
but when they will think Proper to Distribute the  
same is totally uncertain as yet, and the more so  
as the Government has raised but little money this  
Year (in Comparison with the Levies of former  
Years)

Peace was Proclaimed in our Streets a few days  
ago.<sup>1</sup> Attempts are making for the Extension of the  
Excise Laws<sup>2</sup> which gives great Dissatisfaction to  
the Populace and is likely to meet with great Oppo-

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<sup>1</sup> The Peace of Paris was signed February 10, 1763.

<sup>2</sup> The principal cause of dissatisfaction was a new tax on cider.

sition of which more may be seen in the Prints sent herewith

I am with great regard to the Gentlemen of the General Assembly and thyself

Their and Thy Assured Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

AUSTIN-FRYERS. 26 March 1763

To SAMUEL WARD Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island  
Newport



GOVERNOR WARD TO JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

NEWPORT RHODE ISLAND 6<sup>th</sup> April 1763

*Sir*

I have had the Pleasure of receiving your Letter of the 31<sup>st</sup> July last <sup>1</sup> and am much Pleased with the Measures you have taken to obtain for this Colony a due Proportion of the Parliamentary Grant for the Year 1760 and hope they may have the desired Effect. I wrote to Sir Jeffery Amherst agreeable to your request for a Copy of the Returns of the Men actually raised by the Colonies in 1760 and received for Answer that the Returns for 1760, 61, and 62 were made out and would be transmitted to the Lords of the Treasury by the first Opportunity and that as their Lordships would undoubtedly be governed by the Original a Copy was unnecessary, and as these Returns have or probably will very soon arrive I must desire you to take all Proper measures

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 331.



to get this Governments full share of the £10 000 of the Grant made in the Year 1760 still to be distributed and also of all the other Grants made to the Colonies as soon as possible. The General Treasurer was directed to draw Bills on You for the Money which you had received for 1760 which I doubt not but you will duly honor.)

John Temple<sup>1</sup> Esq<sup>r</sup> Surveyor General of the Northern District of America has demanded a Sum of Money of the Colony<sup>2</sup> which arose from the Sale of some forfeited Sugars and as the Government through a Multiplicity of important Business could not immediately examine into his Demand He acquainted me that he should write to the Lords of the Treasury to stop the Colonies Part of the Parliamentary Grants for 1760 and 61, Should any thing of this Kind be attempted You may assure their Lordships that the Government have not the least desire of prejudicing his Majesty's Revenue but have only received a Small Quantity of Sugars forfeited (in their Opinion) by the Statute of the 6<sup>th</sup> Year of the late King, to the Crown, for the Use of the Colony, and that when a State of the Case is sent Home which will be done as soon as possible I doubt not but their Lordships will Approve the Colonys Conduct. In the mean time as this little Government is now loaded with a Debt of upwards of Sixty Thousand Pounds Sterling incurred by a chearful and ready obedience to the Kings Commands and in Expectation of very considerable relief from the Parliament, I can't entertain

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<sup>1</sup> Appointed February 12, 1761, with residence at Boston.

<sup>2</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 342, 350.

the least Suspicion that the Lords of the Treasury will frustrate the Gracious Intention of the King and Parliament in making those Grants upon the bare Suggestion of M<sup>r</sup> Temple especially when his whole Demand amounts to but about Three Hundred Pounds Sterling I deferred writing some Time in Hopes of receiving an Answer from you to my last but as I have never received any I now enclose you a Duplicate thereof and must desire you to write me as often as any thing occurs wherein the Colonys Interest is Concerned. And as our distress'd Circumstances make it Absolutely Necessary that we should receive as soon as possible the full Benefit of the Parliamentary Grants I must recommend it to You to make Speedy and diligent Application for this Goyernments Proportion. M<sup>r</sup> John Hadwen by whom you'll receive this Dispatch is a Merchant of Reputation of this Town and as he is a most worthy and Honest Gentleman any Civilities you may show him I shall esteem as a Favor

I am with much Regard Sir

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

SAM WARD

P S. The Company of Sixty four Men mentioned in my last were very seasonably raised and Compleated and are now upon Duty at Fort Stanwix. I wrote you of the 6<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> last and also transmitted you a Duplicate thereof As those Letters may have miscarried I think it proper to inform you that this Colony voted the same Number of Men to be raised the present Year as the last and that the whole Number excepting about Twenty Men were actually raised .

and did arrive at the Place of their Destination seasonably and much to the satisfaction of Gen<sup>l</sup> Amherst excepting about Fifty or Sixty who were sick or deserted <sup>1</sup>

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR WARD.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

At the time of making the Distribution of the Parliamentary Grant for 1760 General Amherst had sent no return of the Troops Levied and raised by the respective Provinces for that Year and several of us who thought our Colonies had Exerted themselves beyond some of the others objected to a Distribution exactly Conformable to that made in the Year 1759, Whereupon the Lords of the Treasury came to a Resolution that unless the Agents would agree among themselves (in regard to such Distribution) the money should remain in the Treasury till the Arrival of the Generals Certificate which they Determined to make the Rule of their Apportionment. At length the Agents agreed that the Division should be as the preceeding under a Stipulation that in Case upon the Arrival of General Amherst's Certificate any Inequalitys should appear the same should be made good out of the Grant for 1761. You will see by the Minutes that the Province of Pensylvania received more than it's due Share of that Grant and that it is Indebted to several of the Colonies and among others to Rhode Island in the

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<sup>1</sup> See notes to letter of August 6, 1762.

sum of One Thousand Nine Hundred and ten Pounds three Shillings but they, having no money to receive, have given these Acknowledgments to the respective Agents, to send to their Colonies, in Order for them to apply to the Province of Pennsylvania for payment of that money and for which purpose I Send the Inclosed to thee, not doubting but upon due Application the same will be Complied with.<sup>1</sup> As to the £10,000 which was kept back at the Treasury it remains Undistributed, and when that, or the Grant for 1761 will be Distributed Remains yet uncertain. I am with great regard to thyself and the Gent of the General Assembly

Their and Thy Ass<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

21<sup>st</sup> May 1763.

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Gent.*

Foregoing is Duplicate of my last to Governor Ward and herewith I send a Notarial Copy of the Minutes of the Agents therein ment<sup>d</sup>

As to the Affair of the Reimbursement of Expences in 1756 which is mentioned to me again,<sup>2</sup> I Informed the Colony long ago of the Report made on my Petition by the Pay Master Gen<sup>l</sup> and Secretary at Warr and sent a Copy thereof<sup>3</sup> and another Copy I have now sent herewith

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<sup>1</sup> See letter of Governor Hamilton of Pennsylvania, of October 3, 1763.

<sup>2</sup> See Ward's letter of August 6, 1762.

<sup>3</sup> See letter of January 31, 1761, and enclosure.

If the Colony Expects me to Revive that application they must send me (if they are able) such Vouchers as seem to be required and also the Particulars of the last Article of Land Transportation and an Acco<sup>t</sup> of the Remaining Stores And wh<sup>o</sup>[ther] they were delivered to the King's Magazines and if so the Receipt of the King's Officer for the same ought to be sent.

The Objections appearing on the Face of the Report are of such Weight as to carry an Absolute Negative and untill they are Removed and some of the Items Omitted such as Coffee Tea Hams and Sugar a Reimbursement can never be Obtained.

Upon the whole if you will send me Accts cleared (as much as can be) of these Objections I will use my utmost Endeavours to procure a Reimburs<sup>em</sup><sup>t</sup> but the Negative already passed is Conclusive untill these Objections are Removed and if anything is done in this Affair it must be with the utmost Expedition as the length of Time will be Objected to us.

I some time ago got from the Treasury Copys of the return of Gen<sup>l</sup> Amherst. that for 1760 is Included in the Minutes<sup>1</sup> and I have sent a Copy of that for 1761.<sup>2</sup> I am with the utmost respect to the Gov<sup>r</sup> and the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly.

Their Obliged Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

8<sup>th</sup> June 1763

To The Governor and Company of the Colony of  
Rhode-Island

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<sup>1</sup> The minutes are not in the archives.

<sup>2</sup> See enclosure.

[Enclosure.]

*Sir Jeffrey Amherst's Certificate of the Number of Troops furnished by the Provinces in North America in the Year 1761.*

*Return of the Troops furnished by the several Provinces in North America for the Public Service in the Year 1761.*

Provinces or Colonies	Number of Men Voted to be levied Cloathed and paid	Number of Men Actually raised and took the Field	Of which there remained during the Winter
New Hampshire . . .	534 . . .	438 . . .	51
Massachusetts Bay . .	3220 . . .	2637 . . .	591
Rhode Island . . .	666 . . .	395 . . .	64
Connecticut . . .	2300 . . .	2000 . . .	323
New York . . .	1787 . . .	1547 . . .	173
New Jersey . . .	600 . . .	554 . . .	64
Pensylvania . . .	— . . .	— . . .	—
Maryland . . .	— . . .	— . . .	—
Virginia . . .	1000 . . .	1000 . . .	—
North Carolina . . .	500 . . .	225 . . .	—
South Carolina . . .	— . . .	— . . .	—

These are to Certify The right Honorable the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, that the above is a true State of the respective Quota's of Men raised by the several Provinces on the Continent of North America, in Consequence of his Majestys Requisition, for the service of the Year 1761, as nearly as the Numbers can be Ascertained, from the Stragglng manner in which the Provincials Generally take the Field. The Province of South Carolina did make Provision for raising One Thousand Men, for the Expedition against the Cherokees under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel Grant, of which there were upwards of Five Hundred raised and actually took the Field, exclusive of the Corps of Rangers kept in the pay of the Province and principally employed in Escorting Provisions &c to the Army and Out Posts

JEFF. AMHERST

CAPTAIN CORNELL TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.<sup>1</sup>*May it please the Governor*

I doubt not but the General has Inform'd you of the same Orders, as he has sent to me Concerning the Troops being kept this Summer for Service of this Garrison.<sup>2</sup>

I have Advenc'd to each Man Ten Dollars as Bounty in Cloaths out of the Colony's Store as the Men were all Naked.

I shall take all Precaution as far as in my Power lays and agreeable to my Orders from General Amherst to keep the Men Untill I Receive your further Orders which I shall expect Immediatly

I, am, Sir, your most Humble Servant

GEO : CORNELL

FORT STANWIX 24<sup>th</sup> June 1763

To the Honble Governor HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Resp<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>*

Sir Jeffery Amherst has made his return whereby he Certifies that the Colony sent into the Field for the Service of the Year 1761 only Three Hundred and Ninety Five Men. We are making Application to the Treasury for a Distribution of the Parliamentary Grant for that Year But have received

<sup>1</sup> Hopkins was elected governor in May, after a stormy canvass.

<sup>2</sup> See Amherst's letter of June 17, 1763; and Cornell's Memorial to the Assembly, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 364, 365.

no Encouragement to expect that it will be soon Distributed which is owing to the want of Cash in the Treasury as a very small Sum was raised last Year in Comparison with the Preceeding Levies.]

I know of nothing here that relates to the Colony and for Publick News with us I Inclose the Prints of which I desire thy favourable Acceptance and am  
Thy Ass<sup>d</sup> respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

AUSTIN-FRYERS. 7<sup>th</sup> July 1763.

To STEPH<sup>N</sup> HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in America

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✓ JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Esteemed Friend.*

I have not had the Pleasure of a Line from thee since the last Sessions.

In relation to the Affair of the £10,000 mentioned in my last,<sup>1</sup> It Appearing that a great Number of Troops were supplied by the Government of Massachusetts Bay for Garrison Service, the Agents agreed among themselves to allow the said Province £3000 out of the said £10,000 (the Share of the Massachusetts in the said £10,000 being Included therein), this was thought a very good Compromise as there was great reason to beleive the Lords of the Treasury would have Allowed them the whole if the matter had been Litigated

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<sup>1</sup> See letter of August 4, 1763, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 368.



The Treasury Board is now under an Adjournment but will meet again in about a fortnight, and we hope for a Distribution of the Grant for 1761 soon after.

By the decease of the Earl of Egremont one of the Principal Secretarys of State great Alterations in the Capital Appointments have been and are expected, but the Interest of the two Powerfull Contending Parties is so nearly equal that neither has yet Prevailed, the Earl of Sandwich is appointed Secretary of State but most People think it is only to supply the present Vacancy, and that he will not continue long in his Office, but that a Revolution in Politicks will Ensue.<sup>1</sup>

I have had Intelligence that the West Indian Traders are forming a Scheme to prevent or Abridge the Trade of the American Colonies To the French Islands which they will Endeavour to carry into Execution next Sessions of Parliament, I shall keep a Vigilant look out and whenever any thing of that kind is Attempted will spare no Pains nor Application to prevent it. I am with great respect

Thy Ass<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

12<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1763

To STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island at Providence

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<sup>1</sup> George Grenville, who became First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer on April 8, 1763, was for the next two years the dominant influence in English politics. Halifax became Secretary for the Colonies.

GOVERNOR HAMILTON<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

PHILAD<sup>A</sup>. Oct<sup>r</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> 1763.

*Sir,*

I have received the favour of your letters of the 20<sup>th</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup>,<sup>2</sup> inclosing an authenticated Copy, of the transactions of the several Agents of the Northern Colonies, touching the distribution of the Parliamentary Grant for the Year 1760; by which it appears, that Pennsylv<sup>a</sup> hath received considerably more than her just proportion of the s<sup>d</sup> Grant, and in particular, the Sum of £1910.3. sterling which of right belonged to Rhode Island, and which, it was agreed by the said Agents, ought to be repaid to that Colony.

Having, as you rightly judge, received an Account of this affair from Our Agents in England, I failed not to communicate it to the Assembly, at their last sitting about a fortnight ago: desiring them, at the same time, to make provision for the speedy repayments, to the other Colonies, of the Monies We had received belonging to them: and this, I doubt not, they would have done, but that it was only a few days before their dissolution, and at a season, when they rarely enter upon the Consideration of any other business than the settlement of their Publick Accounts.

Being anxious to have this debt, with the others contracted on the same account, honorably discharged, I have spoken to several of the Principal Members

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<sup>1</sup> Hamilton was governor of Pennsylvania from 1760 to 1763.

<sup>2</sup> See instructions of the Assembly (*Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 365), and Sherwood's letter of May 21, 1763.

of our assembly respecting it: And as they all acknowledged the justice of the demand, I make no question, but that, at their next meeting for dispatch of business, in Decem<sup>r</sup> or Januery, they will make effectual Provision for the discharge of the whole, to which I shall gladly contribute my assistance.<sup>1</sup>

I am with much respect Sir  
 Your most Obedient and most humble Servant  
 JAMES HAMILTON  
 Honorable Governor HOPKINS

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

I received thy Favour of 8<sup>th</sup> August,<sup>2</sup> and had a Considerable time before sent a Copy of the return of Gen<sup>l</sup> Amherst for the Year 1761, by which it appears that our Colony both for Summer and Winter Service raised only 459 Men, I have Inclosed another Copy of the same return; upon which the Lords of the Treasury have Allotted £6082 to Rhode Island, being our full Proportion, according to that return with the rest of the Provinces; the money is not yet Issued but we Expect it soon, the Instant I receive it will send you Notice.

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<sup>1</sup> The Council of Pennsylvania passed an act for the payment of £10,947 to the different colonies who had presented claims similar to those of Rhode Island. The House did not concur because, although the money remained undrawn, it had been "appropriated to the King's use." *Penn. Col. Rec.*, IX. 125.

<sup>2</sup> Not in the archives.

I don't apprehend you will meet with any Difficulty in the Reimbursement from Pennsylvania,<sup>1</sup> as to the Connecticut Overplus I expect to receive it here.

I so lately received the Papers relating [to] the Sloop Kinnicut that I have nothing materially to say thereon, per this Conveyance except that I shall use my utmost Endeavours to obtain Justice, and write the Partys per next Oppurtunity.<sup>2</sup>

The Parliament meet about the middle of next Month, in which we Expect several matters to be moved relating to the Colonies.

You will have heard that a new Collector is Appointed for Newport, the sole reason is a late Resolution which the Lords of the Treasury and Commissioners of the Customs have come into, that every Collector shall reside on his Benefice.<sup>3</sup> I am with great regard

Thy respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

AUSTIN-FRYERS. 31<sup>st</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1763.

To The Gov<sup>r</sup> and Company of the Colony of  
Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations in  
New-England in America.

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<sup>1</sup> See note to preceding letter.

<sup>2</sup> This sloop was carried into Trinidad by Spaniards and condemned as a prize, after the cessation of hostilities. For the particulars, see *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 437.

<sup>3</sup> John Robinson of Newport was appointed collector and surveyor for Rhode Island in the place of one Thomas Clift, who was removed because he was not a resident of the colony. Arnold, *Rhode Island*, II. 246.

JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

(I yesterday received at the Pay Office £4082.6<sup>s</sup> and this day £2000 more in Exchequer Bills which I have disposed of, being your Proportion of the grant for 1761 as ment<sup>d</sup> before.)

I have Inclosed my Account which together with my first Account I hope will be Settled and Approved, of which I shall be glad to Receive Advise and cannot Conceive what delays the same. I have not time to add at present but that I am with great regard to thyself and the Gent of the General Assembly Their and

Thy respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

25<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1763.To STEPH<sup>N</sup> HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>


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 BILL OF EXCHANGE.<sup>1</sup>
LONDON 28<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1763.

Exchange for £100 Ster :

*Gent.*

Sixty days after sight of this my second Bill of Exchange (first and third of same Tenor and date not being paid) Pay to Joseph Clark Esq<sup>r</sup> General Treasurer of the Colony of Rhode Island or to the Treasurer of the said Colony for the time being or his Order One Hundred Pounds Sterling in a good

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<sup>1</sup> Sent by Sherwood to Hopkins.

Bill or Bills of Exchange or in Gold or Silver equal  
thereto with or without further Advice from

Y<sup>r</sup> respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

To DAN<sup>L</sup> and JOHN JENCKS }  
Merch<sup>ts</sup> at Providence }

To STEPH<sup>N</sup> HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup> These.



GOVERNOR HOPKINS TO THE SHERIFF OF THE COUNTY OF  
NEWPORT.

*To the Sheriff of the County of Newport, or to His  
Deputy Greeting*

Whereas Application hath been made to me, by  
most of the principal Merchants and Traders of this  
Colony, and many others of considerable Note, pray-  
ing that the General Assembly might be called to-  
gether as soon as conveniently may be, in order to  
take into Consideration the State of the Commerce  
of the Northern Colonies; and, in Conjunction with  
them, to take such measures, and give such Orders  
and Directions to our Agents in Great Britain, as  
may, if possible, remove the Burthens which the  
Trade of these Colonies now labors under, and to  
prevent any new Impositions from taking Place,<sup>1</sup>  
*And Whereas* I have rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from His Excel-  
lency Thomas Gage Esq<sup>r</sup> General, and Commander  
in Chief of all His Majesty's Forces in North Amer-

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<sup>1</sup> See the vote of the Assembly and the Remonstrance addressed to the Lords of  
Trade, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 378.

ica,<sup>1</sup> requesting this Colony to raise two Hundred effective Soldiers, to be employed against the Indian Enemies the next Campaign, and that the Troops may be ready and take the Field by the first of March next: For these Considerations I have ordered the General Assembly to be called together.

*You* are therefore commanded in His Majesty's Name George the third by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain &c. and to warn and to give Notice to every Member of the General Assembly within your County, that they meet at the Court House in South Kingstown on Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> Day of January instant at three of the Clock in the afternoon then and there to Sit in General Assembly, to take into Consideration the Matters aforesaid, or transact any other Business which may be laid before them.

Whereof fail not and make true Return of your Doings to said Assembly.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms, at Providence this 13<sup>th</sup> Day of January in the 4<sup>th</sup> Year of His said Majesty's Reign 1764.

STEP HOPKINS Gov<sup>r</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 376. Rhode Island did not raise the troops requested.

NEWPORT Janu<sup>r</sup> 17 : 1764

I have Notified and warned according to Law the  
Following Members of the Hono<sup>le</sup> General Assembly  
Viz his Honor John Gardner Esq Dep Gov<sup>r</sup>

at the town of Newport	{	James Honyman Esq Ass <sup>t</sup>
		Cap <sup>n</sup> Gidion Wanton Jn <sup>r</sup> Dep <sup>r</sup>
		Cap <sup>n</sup> William Reed . D <sup>o</sup>
		Cap <sup>n</sup> John Wanton . d <sup>o</sup>
		Cap <sup>n</sup> Daniel Arrault . D <sup>o</sup>
		M <sup>r</sup> George Hassard—D <sup>o</sup>
		M <sup>r</sup> Benj <sup>n</sup> Green—D <sup>o</sup>
		Augustus Johnson Esq Att <sup>y</sup> Gener <sup>al</sup>
		at James Town Viz
Jamestown	{	Cap <sup>n</sup> John Gardner Dep <sup>r</sup>
		M <sup>r</sup> Isaac Howland D <sup>o</sup>

To Give their Attendance at the time and  
Within Mentioned

W HAMMOND. D Sheriff



THOMAS RICHARDSON TO JOSEPH CLARKE.<sup>1</sup>

PHILAD<sup>a</sup> Octo<sup>r</sup> 27. 1764

*Esteemd Friend Joseph Clarke*

I wrote thee of this Date and per Post advising I  
had shipd the Money in my hands belonging to the  
Colony of Rh<sup>d</sup> Island<sup>2</sup> per Cap<sup>t</sup> Earle that thou  
mought if necessary get it ensurd. This serves to

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<sup>1</sup> Treasurer of the colony of Rhode Island.

<sup>2</sup> See Governor Hamilton's letter of October 3, 1763.



Cover my Acco<sup>t</sup> with the Voucher for Money Paid  
 [illegible] Doan and Cap<sup>t</sup> Earles Bill of Ladeing for  
 the Ballance being £706.10.2½ which I wish safe  
 to hand and desire Shoud please to give my Bro-  
 ther W<sup>m</sup> Richardson on Receiving the above sum  
 from Cap<sup>t</sup> Earle a Re<sup>t</sup> in full in which thou'l much  
 Oblige

Thy Assured and Ready Friend

THO RICHARDSON

Endorsed: THOS RICHARDSON to JOS. CLARKE.



JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Esteemed Frie<sup>d</sup>*

I wrote thee the 9<sup>th</sup> Inst.<sup>1</sup> fully, and now Inclose  
 the Resolves mentioned therein, Petitions from the  
 Assemblys of Virginia and Connecticut were pre-  
 sented to the House of Commons but they were  
 Rejected, and not one permitted to be brought up to  
 the Table it being Contrary to the Rule and Estab-  
 lished Practice of the House to receive Petitions  
 against a Money Bill;<sup>2</sup> several Members of the  
 House Stood forth as the Advocates of the Colonys,  
 but were Unable to render them any Effectual Ser-  
 vices, the Bill has been read a third Time and will  
 very Soon pass into a Law; I am sorry to be a Mes-

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<sup>1</sup> Not in the archives.

<sup>2</sup> The Stamp Act, passed in March, 1765.

senger of News so Disagreeable to the Colonys as I  
fear this Will be, I am with Regard

Thy Respectful Fri<sup>d</sup>.

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

23<sup>d</sup> February 1765

To STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Colony of Rhode-Island and Provi-  
dence Plantations in

New-England in America.



JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF  
RHODE ISLAND.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

I wrote at large the 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>d</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> The Papers  
and Letters and also the Address to the King has  
been delivered to the Secretary of State, that being  
the usual and proper Channel, I do not apprehend  
any Benefit can arise from Addressing the King on  
Affairs of Trade and Commerce<sup>1</sup> These Affairs are  
left to the Board of Trade and Parliament.

The Merchants of London have used their Endea-  
vours to Alleviate some of your Burthens, they have  
Solicited for the Lowering of the Molasses Duty,  
for Abridging the Extensive Powers of the Courts

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<sup>1</sup> A committee was appointed by the Assembly in July, 1764, to report upon the best means of securing a repeal of the Sugar Act of 1733, and of preventing the passage of the Stamp Act. The result of their labors was a petition to the King in November (*Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 414), and a pamphlet by Hopkins, called *The Rights of Colonies Examined*. This was published in Providence in 1764 and 1765, and in London in 1766. It is printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 416. See also Field, *State of Rhode Island*, I. 217, note.

of Vice Admiralty and for other Relief, but without Immediate Effect, as to the Pamphlets sent me I have Endeavoured to apply them usefully but the Act being passed before they came to hand, no Benefit could possibly arise from Reprinting it here, many Pamphlets have been Published here on the Occasion, I shall pay due regard to the Intimation respecting Extracting the Quintessence of the whole and Printing for the use of the Members, but that must be a Consideration for the next Year as it is too late to carry into Execution a scheme of this sort this Session.

A Bill for Punishing Mutiny and Desertion in America is Carrying thro' the House, in which is contained a Cause Enabling the Justices, and in their default the Commanding Officer to Billet Soldiers in private Familys<sup>1</sup> many of the Members of the House oppose this measure as Arbitrary and Contrary to the natural Liberty of the Subject, I Beleive it will meet with a very warm opposition and I have Reason to hope it will be Rejected, I have taken some pains in this matter, and will Continue so to do, I am under Double Obligations to the Colony for their Confidence and good Opinion in this most interesting Season but I am not so Vain as to Insinuate that I can do anything Effectual towards preventing Measures Resolved on by the Ministry.

I can Confidently Assure you after a Strict Inquiry that no such Petition as you Mention has been

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<sup>1</sup> This act required the colonists to furnish quarters, fire, candles, beds, vinegar, and salt for the troops residing among them.

presented to the Ministry or any of the Publick Boards I am with great Esteem

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

11<sup>th</sup> April 1765.

To The Governour and C<sup>o</sup> of the Colony of Rhode-  
Island.

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

Foregoing is Duplicate of my last, The Agents, with the Assistance of the Merchants of London, have made Strong and Vigorous Opposition, to the Unconstitutional and illegal Measure of Quartering Troops in Private Familys, as mentioned in the foregoing; And it is Agreed by the Ministry, to leave out the Obnoxious and stinging part of the Bill, so that the Clause as it now stands is thus.

The Civil Magistrates in the Colonys, are to Quarter the Troops in the Barracks if any, if there are no Barracks, in Publick Houses as here, and in Case there are not sufficient Convenience of Barracks and Publick Houses, the said Magistrates are to Hire Empty Houses and Barns &c to Quarter the Troops, but there is to be no Billetting in Private Houses.<sup>1</sup>

The Colonys are under great Obligations to the Merchants of London, for their Assistance and Influence in this most Important Attack, had it not been for their Aid, I do beleive the Measure would

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<sup>1</sup> See note to preceding letter.

have been carried; The Merchants in General seem Affected with the Complaints of the Colonys, and Determined to Assist them what they can, and I do hope further Relief and Ease will in some Measure be obtained by their means next Sessions.

Complaints have been Exhibited against the Colony, in regard to its Treatment of one Lieut Hill, you already have, or will, receive an Order of Council, requesting an Answer to those Complaints, I do hope upon the Receipt you will give a speedy and full Answer, that no Imputation may arise from Neglect or delay on your side.<sup>1</sup>

There is a Bill passing the House, Intituled an Act to Regulate the Trade of America, in which are contained several Alterations relating to Commerce, most of them I think in favour of the Colonys, as for Instance — The Restriction respecting Lumber is taken off; the Duty on Coffee Lowered; and a Bounty Granted on the Importation of America Timber,<sup>2</sup> I shall send a more Particular Account of this Bill by the next Vessell.

The House have under Consideration A Regency Bill to provide for the Government of the Nation in Case of the Kings Death, during the Minority of his Successor.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The British schooner *St. John*, Lieutenant Thomas Hill commander, was attacked by a mob, in consequence of the seizure of a cargo of smuggled sugar. Two of the ship's men were taken prisoners, and the guns of Goat Island battery were turned upon the vessel. The Order in Council and papers enclosed therewith are in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 427-430.

<sup>2</sup> 5 Geo. III. c. 45.

<sup>3</sup> This bill was passed in consequence of the King's serious illness in the preceding April, when symptoms appeared of that mental derangement to which he was afterwards subject.

I am with great regard to the Gent of the General Assembly and thyself.

Their and Thy respectfull Frd.

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

WARNFORD COURT THROGMORTON STREET

2<sup>d</sup> May 1765.

To The Governor and Company of the Colony of  
Rhode-Island

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GOVERNOR WARD<sup>1</sup> TO JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

NEWPORT 28<sup>th</sup> June 1765

*Sir*

Your Favor of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of last Month<sup>2</sup> with a Duplicate of a former Letter and some News Papers I have received by Cap<sup>t</sup> Carmar

The vigorous Opposition made by You and the other Agents to the intolerable Measure of quartering Troops in private Families must give a general Satisfaction to the Colonies and We shall ever look upon ourselves under the Strongest obligations to the Merchants of London for their generous Assistance upon this important Occasion, their Opposition to this unconstitutional Measure was truly noble and patriotic and Time I believe will evince that it is the true Interest of Great Britain in General and of the Merchants in particular to have the Liberties and Privileges of the Northern Colonies continued

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<sup>1</sup> Hopkins was elected governor in 1763 and 1764, in the latter year by a very narrow margin. In 1765 the Ward faction triumphed, and since Newport was the stronghold of the Ward constituency, the moderation of the Assembly in dealing with the rioters may thereby be partly explained.

<sup>2</sup> See preceding letter.

inviolable to the latest Posterity.<sup>1</sup> Your Advice with Regard to the Affair with Lieut. Hill is just, but as it will require some Time to prepare a proper State of the Case, the general Assembly will not meet until the second Monday in September next, I cannot transmit an Answer 'till their Meeting but shall embrace the first Opportunity after that to return one.<sup>2</sup> in the mean Time I have acknowledged by this Conveyance the Receipt of his Majesty's royal Order and assured the Lords of Trade and Plantations that all due and ready Obedience shall be paid to it, a Copy of my Letter to the Board I have enclosed herewith.<sup>3</sup>

Your Intelligence of the Act of regulating the Trade of America<sup>4</sup> I am obliged to You for and whenever any Thing new and interesting is on the Carpet your Advising Us of it will be very agreeable

Under Cover with this You'll find a Duplicate of my last principally relative to the wished for Reimbursement of our Expences in 1756 And if any Thing can be obtained on that Account it will be extremely acceptable to the Government<sup>5</sup>

I am With great Regard Sir Your respectful  
Friend and humble Servant

SAM: WARD

JOSEPH SHERWOOD Esq<sup>r</sup>

Agent for the Colony of Rhode Island At London

<sup>1</sup> For an account of the position of the London merchants, see Lecky, *England in the Eighteenth Century* (ed. Appleton), IV. 84-86.

<sup>2</sup> In the September session the Assembly voted that since "sundry riots have been committed in the town of Newport," the governor shall issue a proclamation for apprehending the rioters, and shall "prevent any such riots for the future." *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 451.

<sup>3</sup> This letter, of June 28, is in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 444.

<sup>4</sup> See preceding letter.

<sup>5</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 434.

JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR WARD.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

I received thy favour of 17<sup>th</sup> May, and intend to Answer it per next Oppurtunity it being Impossible for me to Embrace this.

I give you Joy on the Revolution in the Ministry, I hope it will produce some real Benefit to the Distressed Americans.

The Duke of Grafton	}	are appointed Secretarys
and General Conway		of State
Earl of Winchelsea . .		President of the Council
Marquiss of Rockingham	}	Lords Commissioners of the Treasury
Will <sup>m</sup> Dowdeswell		
John Cavendish		
Tho <sup>s</sup> Townsend		
George Onslow	}	Esq <sup>rs</sup>
and Will <sup>m</sup> Dowdeswell		

Esq<sup>r</sup> is appointed Chancellor and Under Treasurer of the Exchequer.

It is confidently Asserted these Changes will produce great Ease to the Inhabitants of America <sup>1</sup> I am with great regard to the Gent of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly and Thyself

Their and thy Ass<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

WARNFORD COURT. THROGMORTON STREET.

16<sup>th</sup> July 1765.

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<sup>1</sup> The American situation had no influence whatever upon Grenville's downfall. He failed to make himself acceptable to George III., and was dismissed to make way for the short-lived Rockingham ministry. Conway was one of the few opponents of the Stamp Act in England.



GOVERNOR FAUQUIER<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR WARD.WM<sup>B</sup>BURGH Aug.<sup>a</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1765*Sir,*

Soon after the Receipt of your Letter, some affairs of this Colony required that I should call a full Council; at that board your Letter and the Deposition of M<sup>r</sup> Morris were read and considered. Some of the Members said that they knew Captain Thomas, who had been long in the Employ of M<sup>r</sup> Newton of Norfolk,<sup>2</sup> and that he was a Man who had always bore a very fair Character, and they were perswaded if I would lay the whole Affair before M<sup>r</sup> Newton that he would make enquiry into it, and that from the Knowledge they had of that Gentlemans Integrity, I might safely depend on what Information he should give me. I accordingly sent your Letter and other papers to M<sup>r</sup> Newton: his, and Captain Thomass Answers to them, and my Letter sent with them, I have inclosed to you for your full Satisfaction,<sup>3</sup> as to what has been transacted in this matter: and shall only observe upon them, that to me there appears an air of Truth and Candor throughout Capt<sup>n</sup> Thomas's Narrative, which is descriptive of the Character given him by some Gentlemen of the Council. I do not perceive that I can go any further in this Business on the footing it now stands; for tho' M<sup>r</sup> Morris's Information may be a ground work for a prosecution, it must fall, for want of Evidence. If you think his Answer not satisfactory, you may be assured I shall readily give you all the Assistance I can legally do,

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<sup>1</sup> Fauquier was governor of Virginia from 1758 to 1768.

<sup>2</sup> See Newton's letter, p. 371.

<sup>3</sup> See the two following documents.

to bring this Affair into daylight, It being a Duty I owe to his Majesty and consequently to all his Subjects. I am Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> very hum : Serv<sup>t</sup>

FRAN : FAUQUIER

To SAM<sup>l</sup> WARD Esq<sup>r</sup>

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CAPTAIN THOMAS TO GOVERNOR FAUQUIER.<sup>1</sup>

NORFOLK July 26<sup>th</sup> 1765

*Sir.*

I am informed by M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Newton that it is represented to you by some in the Northern Government, that I Clandestinly or by force carried off several free men from the Coast of Africa at the time I was there in his Vessel. It gives me much concern that I should be accused of an Action that I shou'd Condemn in another, and that I did bring off one man which I believe might be free born I readily own, and at the same time I took him on Board was really to serve the Person without advantage to my Owner. One Blackney of the Brigantine Catherina from the Island S<sup>t</sup> Thomas's<sup>2</sup> had a man left on Board him as a pawn, and as he was going off the Coast before I could leave it which was about the first of May I gave him two Slaves for him, and as he pretended to be one of great Credit I did not in the least doubt but the Person who left him as a pledge for Goods received wou'd redeem him before I left the Coast, and that I did use my utmost En-

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with Fauquier's letter of August 8, 1765.

<sup>2</sup> In the West Indies.

deavours to get him of my hands is a real truth, but whether I was imposed on by the Captain, or that his friends wanted to get clear of him I am yet ignorant off. Being in great distress for want of Provisions from the ill Treatment I received from some of the Natives who took from me sundry Merchandize and cou'd get nothing from them I made my Case known to King Peter who sent his son young Peter, second King of that Country on Board to see further into the particulars I had informed off, he voluntary left one of his Friends on board as a Security for his promise that he wou'd either Compel them to make Satisfaction or bring as many as he cou'd get and deliver them up as Spoilers of their Country; accordingly on or about the 27<sup>th</sup> April 1763 he brought off three men tyed and delivered them according to their Custom as Slaves and he together with Robert Gray, (who both before and after) I had Considerable dealings with put them in Irons. from [that] time to June 3<sup>d</sup> I traded without being molested, my Boat being every day a shore and often myself in her, and Endeavoured to get them redeemed as my Officers can Testifie were they here, but so far from getting clear of them that the Natives abused them every time they came to trade. This Sir is a faithful account of the whole Affair and that I was justifiable as it is commonly practised, other Vessels having the Natives on Board on the same footing. I am Sir

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

CHARLES THOMAS

To The Hon<sup>ble</sup> FRANCIS FAUQUIER Esq<sup>r</sup>

THOMAS NEWTON AND CO. TO GOVERNOR FAUQUIER.<sup>1</sup>

NORFOLK July 27<sup>th</sup> 1765

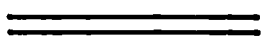
*Sir.*

Your favour of the 22<sup>d</sup> Instant I rec<sup>d</sup>., also M<sup>r</sup> Ward's Letter and M<sup>r</sup> Owin Morris's Deposition setting forth that Capt: Charles Thomas brought from the Coast of Guinea several free Negroes, Capt: Thomas sailed from Virginia in Sloop belonging to Mess<sup>rs</sup> Sparling Bolding and self, sometime in November Seventeen hundred and sixty two, he arrived here with his Slaves in October 1763, soon after went up James river and there sold them, which is all we know of the matter. Capt: Thomas is in Town shall desire him to inform your Honour more fully of the Charge against him, we shall be very sorry that any person or Persons should suffer by his misconduct, we are Sir

Your most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

THOMAS NEWTON AND C<sup>o</sup>

To The Hon<sup>ble</sup> FRANCIS FAUQUIER Esq<sup>t</sup>



THE LORDS OF TRADE TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY  
OF RHODE ISLAND.

WHITEHALL August 23. 1765.

*Gentlemen,*

His Majesty having appointed us His Commissioners for promoting the Trade of this Kingdom, and for inspecting and improving His Majesty's foreign

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with letter of August 8, 1765.

Colonies and Plantations, it is our Duty to acquaint you therewith, and to desire, that you will, from time to time by every Opportunity that offers, transmit to us an exact and faithful Account of all Occurrences within the Colony under your Government.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servants,

DARTMOUTH

JOHN ROBERTS.

J. DYSON

W<sup>M</sup>. FITZHERBERT

Gov<sup>r</sup> and Company of Rhode Island.

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GOVERNOR WARD TO MESSRS. JOHN ROBINSON<sup>1</sup> AND JOHN NICOLL.<sup>2</sup>

NEWPORT 29<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1765

*Gentlemen*

Your Favor of the 23<sup>d</sup> Instant<sup>3</sup> is now before me and I heartily wish it was in my Power to propose some Measures which would effectually promote the Kings Service and the Trade of this Port, the declining and unhappy State of which gives me and every Person who has the Welfare of this Colony at Heart the greatest Concern But as I have no particular Instructions from the Crown I can at present,

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<sup>1</sup> Collector of customs at Newport.

<sup>2</sup> Comptroller at Newport. These officers, and Nicholas Lechmere, searcher of customs, closed the custom-house and went on board the British ship *Cygnat*, which lay in the harbor, in order to ensure their personal safety, so excited was the popular feeling against the King's officers. Their correspondence with the Rhode Island government upon the situation is in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VL 453-457.

<sup>3</sup> Not in the archives.

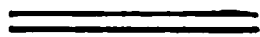
Gentlemen, only recommend to you to be as easy and favorable in Your respective Offices to the Trade and Navigation of the Colony in the present embarrassed situation of affairs as your Duty to the Crown will admit. this I think must be for his Majesty's Service the Interest of the King and his Subjects being invariably the same and this in my Opinion will give such General Satisfaction to the Inhabitants of the Colony that you will meet with no manner of Interruption in the Execution of your Duty. But should any Person or Persons contrary to my Expectation be so hardy as to offer any Violence to the Persons of his Maj<sup>ty</sup> Officers of the Customs or the Custom House, You may be assured Gentlemen, that I shall immediately and vigorously exert all the authority with which I am by Law vested for the Perservation of the Custom House and the Protection of your Persons and shall at all Times afford all due Support in the Execution of your Duty

I am with due Regard Gentlemen

Your most humble Servant

S. W.

JOHN ROBINSON and JOHN NICOLL Esqr



GOVERNOR WARD TO THE LORDS OF THE TREASURY.

NEWPORT ON RHODE ISLAND

21<sup>st</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1765.

*My Lords*

I have the Honor of your Lordships Directions of the 14<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> last transmitted to me by M<sup>r</sup>. Mel-

lish<sup>1</sup> who also inclosed me a Copy of an Extract of a Letter from the Collector and Comptroller of this Colony both which I shall lay before the General Assembly at their next Session when I doubt not but just measures will be taken relative thereto as will be entirely satisfactory to your Lordships

I have the Honor to be

With great Truth and Regard My Lords  
Your Lordships Most obedient humble Servant  
SAM WARD.

Right Honorable the Lords Commissioners of his  
Maj<sup>s</sup> Treasury.

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR WARD.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

I am now to Answer thy Favour of 17<sup>th</sup> May 1765 respecting the Reimbursement for 1756;<sup>2</sup> about the Year 1761, I sent to the Colony a Report of the Pay Master General and Secretary at War upon this Account,<sup>3</sup> and which containing many Objections their Lordships then refused to permitt me to Apply to Parliament, you will see by these Papers that there are many Articles contained in this Account which the Crown never Engaged to Reimburse.

I have preferred my Petition again to the Lords of the Treasury, upon the Ground of Striking out the

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 457, 458. Bartlett says that the matter was referred to a committee of the Assembly, who reported on it in October, 1767, and prints their report (*Ibid.*, VI. 459). See for the notes of reference, *Ibid.*, VI. 481, 521.

<sup>2</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 434.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 313.

Exceptionable Articles rather than loose the whole, This Memorial has been Considered by the Board, and I have been heard thereupon before them, and their Lordships were pleased to send the same again to the Pay Master General and Secretary at War, and I must if I am able clear up the Objections before them, and if I can get a favourable Report it is likely we shall obtain the money, I shall use my Utmost Endeavours for Success, and Advise so soon as I can get their Report.

The Merchants of London have Associated, and Appointed a Committee to render all the Services they can to America during the present Sessions; The Parliament met about three Weeks ago, and after sitting two or three days Adjourned to the 14<sup>th</sup> Instant, much was said in the House relating to America, but no Resolutions were come to, many of the present Ministry having Vacated their Seats by Accepting Places, these matters were Postponed till their ReElection, and it is Expected that the Parliament will Immediately on their Meeting take the Situation of America into their Consideration and apply some Emollients.

The Joint Petition of the Congress Commissioners, is come to the Agent specially Appointed by the Massachusetts Assembly.<sup>1</sup> It is Expected the American Business will be brought on very soon, I shall Advise as any thing Occurrs and am with great

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<sup>1</sup> The addresses to the King and the two Houses of Parliament are given in Hutchinson, *Massachusetts Bay*, III. 479-487.



regard to thy self and the Gent of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly their, and thy respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

WARNFORD COURT THROGMORTON STREET

11<sup>th</sup> Jan: 1766.

To SAMUEL WARD Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island

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JOHN ROBINSON AND JOHN NICOLL TO GOVERNOR WARD.

CUSTOM HOUSE 22<sup>d</sup> February 1766

*Sir,*

The Brig: Wainscott and Sloop Nelly having been seized at Providence in March 1765 by the Comptroller and M<sup>r</sup> Jenkins Lieu<sup>t</sup> of the Maidstone,<sup>1</sup> by the especial Direction of the Surveyor General; These Gentlemen and the Collector, apprehending they would meet with Difficulty in producing Proofs against them upon Tryall, directed the Advocate of the Court of Admiralty to procure an order of Court for Examination of Witnesses on Interrogatories before the Register, which is the practice of all such Courts, in most Cases, and especially those of any Intricacy; and this Course is the more necessary to be followed, where there is a Likelihood of a Litigation and of an Appeal from the decree, as the Depositions cannot without be so properly transmitted Home. But the end of such Measure in this particular Case was to guard against any bad Consequences

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<sup>1</sup> See the account of the case sent to the Lords of the Treasury in June, 1765, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 458.

to the King's Service from the Witnesses Non Attendance according to Summons on a fixed Day.

Some little Time having been spent in a Necessary correspondence with the Surveyor General on the Subject, and the Advocate having promised to observe our Directions, we were soon after, to our great Surprise, informed that the Judge had Appointed the Thursday following to try the Vessels at Providence (of which we had only three Days Notice) without the least regard to the Measure that we deemed so essential to the safety of the Revenue.

We were much disconcerted by this Resolution of the Judge, and delivered to the Advocate our Sentiments thereof, which are contained in the following Letter.

CUSTOM HOUSE 10 March 1765.

*Sir*

We are not a little Surprized to find that the Trials of the Wainscot and Nelly comes on next Thursday, at a Court of Admiralty at Providence, notwithstanding it was our Request to you that there should be an Adjournment of it so as to have an Opportunity of examining Witnesses in behalf of the Crown on proper Interrogatories. You can't suppose it possible for us, in the space of three Days, to procure proper proofs to Support these Suits; And we must Desire of you to Urge the Necessity of an Adjournment of the Court for at least a Fortnight to this Town, and in case of a Refusal we must beg you to do all you can on the part of the Crown

We are &c

J. HONEYMAN Esq<sup>r</sup>

J. R. Collector

J. N. Comptroller

If the Court would not pursue the plan we at first Proposed, we little doubted of its Adjournment for a Fortnight; but even in this we were deceived, for

the Advocate having made such a Motion, the Court was Adjourned only for a Week, of which we had still but two or three Days Advice; And we were afterwards informed by the Advocate that this Adjournment, was owing to the Register and Marshall's Not Attending, and of Course the Non Return of the process by the Latter.

Finding the Court peremptorily determined to proceed, and that we had no Alternative left, but to wait, under all those Disadvantages, the Judges pleasure, We Applied to the Advocate to attend the Trial, which he Absolutely Declined for Reasons known only to himself And therefore the Comptroller was Obligated to go to Providence to stand his own Advocate, A Process was issued out to summon several Persons as Evidence against both Vessels, but the same was return'd unexecuted, the Witnesses being not to be found, and the Judge, notwithstanding, pronounced his Decree, by which both were Acquitted, and our attempts to do our Duty entirely baffled. This was the Consequence that we Apprehended, nay dreaded, and this induced us to propose the other Method of obtaining Testimony as a precaution to avoid it. We are far from meaning to intermeddle with any Thing that may be in the Province of the Court of Admiralty; But we may without presumption, nay we are Obligated in Duty to represent to our Superiors, any Conduct that in our Judgement Affects the Revenue, which in this Port is committed to our Care and Management. If the Judge considered that there was any unnecessary Delay attending these prosecutions, on the part of

the Crown, a Writ of Delivery, would have effectually removed such a Grievance and given Satisfaction to all parties

The holding of Courts of Justice at no Stated Times and places, has been often a Complaint on the side of the Subject — we are now, and what is more extraordinary, on the part of the Crown, obliged to mention it as an Inconveniency that we have laboured under in every Instance when we have had any Business before the Court. Though the Judge possibly, may discretionally Act his Own pleasure, as well as to Time as place; Yet we conceive that was the Court held in Newport, the Capital of the Colony, and at certain fixed Days, it would be more proper, than to hold it at his own House, in the Woods, or any other less private place, and at any hour of any Day in the Year.

We have thought proper to be thus minute in Acquainting you with the Circumstances of this Affair, and we esteem it necessary to give you a brief Account of the Conduct of the Court in every other matter that we brought before it, as it is from thence that we found our Opinion of its partiality. Therefore

First — Upon a prosecution of ten Hogsheads of Molasses in May or June 1764, the Court admitted a Claim to answer Costs without taking a Security, as required by Act of Parliament; and the Claim being withdrawn the Cost was paid out of the condemned Goods to the prejudice of the Crown and prosecutor.

2<sup>dly</sup> Ninety three Casks of Sugar, having been seized

and Condemned the same was sold in June or July 1764 by the Court (which always assumes that Power) and afterwards delivered up without receiving the Price of it, and tho' the prosecutor has often applied to the Advocate, Register and Marshal about it, his share is not paid him to this Day.

3<sup>dly</sup> A Quantity of Rum and Molosses and two Schooners, having been Seized and Condemned and sold in like manner by the Court in October 1764, the same were also delivered up without receiving the price of them, and it was full Eight Months before any part of this Money was paid the Collector, and a Considerable part of it is unpaid to this Day, notwithstanding our frequent Application to the Register of the Court.

4<sup>thly</sup> A Fine was sued for and decreed in or about May 1765, and the same is not paid to this Time, the Court having not issued out the proper process, tho' the prosecutor has frequently solicited the same from all the Officers of the Court.

5<sup>thly</sup> A Vessel estimated at three Hundred pounds Sterling having been Seized; prosecuted and Condemnd at Providence about August 1765, was the Day after there sold by the Court for about Twenty pounds Sterling; And this great Deficiency in the Sale most be imputed to such Abrupt manner of proceeding, and to the Custom house not having any Notice thereof; And the King's share thereof is not yet paid in

All these Delays in paying into the Exchequer the Crown's share of the Fines and Forfeitures, must from the Accounts we are Obliged regularly to trans-

mit Home, appear to our Superiors; and therefore to Account for the same, it was a Duty we Owed the King our Master and to ourselves, to make a faithful representation of the Cause thereof; without Regard to the persons that might be thereby affected

All the Facts that we have advanced will be found true if examined into, but to whose share the Blame may fall, whether the Judge who presides over the Court, or any particular Member or Members thereof (whose Behaviour however we suppose ought to be inspected into and regulated by the Judge) we cannot be more particular at present in pointing out; And if you should want any further Information about, or explanation of these Matters, we shall always be ready to satisfy you.<sup>1</sup>

We are with great Respect Sir

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup> and most Hble serv

JOHN ROBINSON  
JOHN NICOLL

The Honble Gov<sup>r</sup> WARD

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR WARD.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

By my Letter of 25<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>2</sup> via Maryland, and Duplicate thereof per Jacobson, I gave an Account of the Transactions of the House of Commons in relation to the Stamp Act.

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<sup>1</sup> See for action of the Assembly regarding this matter, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 481, 521.

<sup>2</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 484.

Since which the Repeal has passed the House of Commons by a great Majority, but with great Opposition from the People lately in Power; The Bill is now depending in the House of Lords, it has been read twice, and was yesterday Committed to a Committee of the whole House for tomorrow, Upon the Division in that House the Majority in favour of the Repeal was 44.

There is a Bill also passing thro' the Houses relating to America which is Connected with the before mentioned,<sup>1</sup> Inclosed are Copys of both.

Time would not permitt me when I wrote last to give a full Answer to thy several favours, which I shall now Endeavour to do.

I must Acknowledge the General Assembly have Treated me with great kindness and respect, and hope I shall retain a gratefull sence of the Obligation I am under to them, but as there were Bills drawn to a Considerable Amount more than what the Assembly had allowed the Ballance in my hands to be, I thought it arose from some Mistake of the Persons Intrusted by the Assembly to Transact that Business, and after having Accepted and paid about three Hundred Pounds more than I ought to have been drawn upon for, I thought it time to Stop, more especially when the Arduous and Important Affairs of the Colony would necessarily Occasion considerable Expence. It is both my Inclination and Duty to regard the Honour of the Colony, but I must at the same time Pay some regard to my Own Honour and not Accept Bills which May perhaps be not

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<sup>1</sup> See the following letter for a detailed account of this measure.

in my Power to discharge, I do not find that the other Colonys Overdraw their Agents tho' the Annual Salary allowd to some of them is £500 Sterling, I hope the Assembly will hold me Excused for what I have done, and depend on my Endeavours upon all Occasions to Support the Reputation of the Colony when I can do it, without Prejudice to my own.<sup>1</sup>

Immediately after Receipt of the Letters to Col: Barre<sup>2</sup> I waited on that Gentleman, and in the most respectfull manner I was able, presented the Letter, and the Sence the Government had of his Regard, he received me with great Curtesy, promised to write the Assembly in Answer, and Assured me he would Continue to Use his Endeavours for the Preservation of the Libertys of the Americans, to them so Sacred.

In regard to the Petitions signed at the Congress of which you sent me Copys, that to the King was delivered, that which was Addressed for the Lords being called a Memorial, could not by the Rules of that House be Admitted, as nothing of that Sort can be presented to them but under the Designation of an Humble Petition, That to the Commons was Offered to the House by a worthy Member, who read it in his place, and Debates arose upon the Propriety of receiving it, as not coming from any Legislative or

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<sup>1</sup> This expression of opinion was elicited by a letter from Ward, of November 7, 1765 (*Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 474), in which he protests against the course taken by the colony's agent.

<sup>2</sup> It was Barré who first used the phrase "sons of liberty," which became a favorite designation of patriotic associations in the colonies. His speech was made in 1765, when the measure was first before the House, and sent to America by the agent for Connecticut, who happened to be in the gallery. Lecky, *England* (ed. Appleton), IV. 74.



legally Authorized Body of People, and the Stream being against the bringing it up it was Declined, but without any Negative.<sup>1</sup>

I have not yet got any Report from the Pay Master General and Secretary at War, altho I have Solicited it with great Application, and do now Expect it daily. I am with great regard to thy self and the Gent of the General Assembly

Thy and their respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

WARNFORD COURT THROGMORTON STREET

13<sup>th</sup> March 1766.

TO SAMUEL WARD Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governour of the Colony of Rhode Island

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR WARD.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

Inclosed is Duplicate of my last to the Governor and Company, since which the Trade and Navigation of America have been Agitated in the House of Commons with great Warmth and Industry by both Parties and at length the House on the 9<sup>th</sup> Instant Agreed with their Committee on the following Resolutions, by which you will see that every Grievance of which you Complained is now Absolutely and totally removed, a joyfull and a happy Event for the late Disconsolate Inhabitants of America. I Trust they will make a wise and Prudent use of the Tender Indulgencies shewn them by their now Affectionate Mother.

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<sup>1</sup> These documents were referred to in Ward's letter, cited above.

Resolved.

That the Duties imposed by an Act or Acts of Parliament upon Melasses and Syrups of the Growth Produce or Manufacture of any Forreign American Colony or Plantation imported into any British Colony or Plantation in America do Cease and Determine.

Resolved.

That it is the Opinion of this Committee that the Duties Imposed upon Sugars in the British Colonies in America by an Act made in the 25<sup>th</sup> Year of the Reign of King Charles the second for Encouragement of the Greenland and Eastland Trades and better securing the Plantation Trade do cease and Determine.

Resolved.

That the Duties Imposed by the Act made in the fourth Year of his present Majestys Reign upon Coffee and Piemento<sup>1</sup> of the Growth and Produce of any British Colony or Plantations in America which should be Shipped to be carryed out from thence do Cease and Determine.

Resolved

That a Duty of seven Shillings Sterling money per Hundred weight Averdupois be laid upon all such Coffee which shall be Imported into any such Colony or Plantation except only such Coffee as shall upon the Landing thereof be Immediately deposited and Secured in Warehouses in order to be reexported under proper Restrictions.

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<sup>1</sup> An evergreen, spice-producing shrub, native to the West Indies, but cultivated almost exclusively in Jamaica, and sometimes called Jamaica pepper. It is commonly known in America as allspice.

Resolved

That a Duty of one half Penny Sterling money per pound Averdupois be laid upon all such Pimento which shall be Imported into any such Colony or Plantation, except only such Pimento as shall upon the Landing thereof be immediately deposited and Secured in Warehouses in order to be reexported under proper Restrictions.

Resolved

That no Duties be paid upon such Forreign Sugars Coffee or Indico as shall be Imported into any British Colony or Plantation on the Continent of America and upon landing thereof be immediately deposited and Secured in Warehouses in Order to be Reexported under proper Restrictions.

Resolved.

That fforeign Cotton Wool and Indico be permitted to be imported by British Ships Navigated according to Law into any British Island in that part of America commonly called the West Indies free from the Payment of any Duty or other Imposition whatsoever

Resolved.

That the Produce of such of the said Duties to be raised in the said Colonies and Plantations be paid into the receipt of his Majestys Exchequer and there reserved to be from time to time disposed of by Parliament towards Defraying the necessary Expences of defending Protecting and securing the said Colonies and Plantations.

Resolved

That it will be for the Advantage of the Trade

Navigation and Manufactures of this Kingdom to Establish one or more Port or Ports in his Majestys Dominions in America for the more free Importation and Expor[ta]tion of certain Goods and Merchandizes under proper Regulations and Restrictions."

And a Bill was Ordered in pursuant to the said Resolutions."

I sometime ago obtained a Report from the Pay Master General and Secretary at War of which I In-close you a Copy,<sup>1</sup> it was with great Difficulty I could obtain one so favourable, this Report lyes now at the Treasury, and I apprehend that the Lords would Order the Payment thereof Immediately had it not been for the Outrages and Violent Riots<sup>2</sup> Committed in the Government upon the Persons and Effects of the two Gentlemen now here and some others, You see by the Resolutions of the House that they are determined to Espouse and Encourage those who have Suffered in that Cause, and from what I can pick up (tho' it is not openly Avowed) The Treasury Board seemed disposed to delay the Payment of this money untill they see what Measures the Assembly adopt in Consequence of the Requisition of the House for the Reimbursement of these People. I

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<sup>1</sup> Report on the expenses incurred in 1756. See Ward's letter of May 17, 1765, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 434. This report is not in the archives.

<sup>2</sup> Riots of August, 1765, in Newport. The sufferers who had gone to England to present their claims for indemnification in person were Martin Howard, Jr., and Dr. Thomas Moffat, whose "houses and effects" received "some little injury," Ward writes Secretary Conway, in the following February (*Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 483). These claims proved an insurmountable obstacle so far as the Treasury Board was concerned. Moffat's claim amounted to £1310, of which £179 was paid by the colony in 1772; that of Howard was reduced by the Assembly from £970 to £76, which was to be paid when the money granted for 1756 should be received from England. Arnold, *Rhode Island*, II. 271. See also Ward's letter to Sherwood of November 6, 1766, and note, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 513.

shall use my best Endeavours to obtain a speedy payment and am with great regard to thyself and the Gent of the General Assembly

Thy and their respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

15<sup>th</sup> May 1766.

To The Governor and Company  
of the Colony of Rhode Island in America



THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF RHODE ISLAND TO THE  
KING.

*To the Kings Most Excellent Majesty*

The humble Address of the Governour and Company of the English Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England in America.

May it please your Majesty,

We your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects the Governour and Company of the English Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England in America in Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly convened beg Leave gratefully to acknowledge the Share we have in the Blessings of your Majesty's mild and just Government and to return your Majesty our unfeigned Thanks for the late Instance of your Paternal Regard for all your Subjects however distant in giving your Royal Assent to the Bill for repealing the Act of Parliament imposing Stamp Duties upon the Inhabitants of the British Colonies in America.

It was with the deepest Concern we reflected upon the fatal Consequences we conceived would

inevitably attend the Operation of that Act not only to your Majesty's loyal Subjects in America but also to those in Great Britain : And it is with equal Joy and Gratitude that we find an Act so destructive in our humble Opinions to the Interests of both Countries repealed.

Upon this Occasion which will render the Name of your Majesty forever dear to the British Colonies in America we also beg Leave to express the grateful Sentiments we entertain of the Lenity the Moderation and Magnanimity so conspicuous in the Two Houses of Parliament; and the firm Reliance we place in the Wisdom and Justice of the Legislature of Great Britain That uninfluenced by any partial Consideration their Councils will ever be directed for the Benefit of all the British Dominions.

By every Motive of Duty and Affection by the sacred Ties of Gratitude and Conscience devoted to your Majesty's Royal Person and Family and Government — possessed with the sincerest Veneration for the British Constitution, and convinced that our Connection with and Dependence upon Great Britain are the only sure Foundations of our Happiness We beg Leave to assure your Majesty That it shall be our Study to cultivate the Principles of Loyalty to your Majesty, of due Regard and Submission to that August Body the British Parliament, of Friendship and Filial Affection to Great Britain ; and to promote the true Interest and Felicity of all your Majesty's Subjects.

That your Majesty may long very long sway the Sceptre of Great Britain with Glory and Renown

and continue to be considered as the Father of your People by Millions of Faithful Subjects throughout the British Empire; and that there may never be wanting One of your Illustrious House to transmit to the latest Posterity the Blessings of Your Majestys auspicious Reign are the sincere Wishes and ardent Prayers of

May it please your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most dutiful  
and loyal Subjects

THE GOV<sup>R</sup> AND COMPANY OF THE COLONY OF  
RHODE ISLAND

June 14<sup>th</sup> 1766.

*To the House of Mag<sup>ts</sup>*

*Gen<sup>t</sup>*

Resolved that the Abovewritten form of an Address be Approved of And that his Hon<sup>r</sup> the Gov<sup>r</sup> be requested to order a Fair Copy to be made and transmit the same to his Majesty

Voted and past  
per Ord<sup>r</sup> J LYNDON Cler

*In the Upper House*

Read the same Day and concurred with this Amendment that the Secretary be directed to give out no Copy of the same until Intelligence is received of its being presented to His Majesty.<sup>1</sup>

Read the same Day in the Lower house and concurred

per ord<sup>r</sup> J LYNDON Cler

By Ord<sup>r</sup> HENRY WARD  
Secretary

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 496.

GOVERNOR WARD TO THE MERCHANTS IN LONDON.<sup>1</sup>

NEWPORT 30<sup>th</sup> June 1766

*Gentlemen*

In Consequence of the inclosed Resolve of the General Assembly I have the Pleasure to transmit to You the Thanks of this Colony for your generous and unwearied Assistance in promoting the Repeal of the late Act of Parliament for levying certain Stamp Duties in America

This happy Event which hath restored Peace and Tranquility to America with the proposed Regulations and Extension of American Commerce will I doubt not be attended with the most advantageous Consequences not only to the Interests of this Country but to the Trade and Manufactures of Great Britain. And for the Promotion of these beneficial Measures All America gratefully acknowledges themselves highly indebted to the Merchants of Great Britain I am With great regard Gentlemen

Your most obedient humble Servant

S W

BARLOW TRESOTHICK Esq<sup>r</sup> and the other Merch<sup>ts</sup> in  
London

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GOVERNOR WARD TO JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

NEWPORT 4<sup>th</sup> July 1766

*Sir*

I am now to acknowledge the receiving your Favors of the 11<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> the 25<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>ry</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> March last.

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<sup>1</sup> See instructions of the Assembly in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 494.



The Repeal of the Stamp Act has given the greatest Pleasure to this and all the Colonies and is received with the most sincere and ardent Gratitude and thankfulness and if the Regulations of our Trade are as favorable as we have Reason from M<sup>r</sup> Secretary Conways Letter <sup>1</sup> to expect there is not the least Doubt but that the most affectionate Intercourse and Harmony will be established between Great Britain and her Colonies to the lasting Benefit of both Countries, And this Colony in particular will take every proper Measure for promoting and perpetuating such a desirable Union

Upon receiving M<sup>r</sup> Secretary Conways Letter and Copies of the Acts just passed relative to the Stamp Act the Government unanimously voted an humble Address to the King which I have inclosed in my letter to his Excellency and requested the Favor of him to present to his Majesty

I am much pleased that you have obtain'd a hearing on our Demands for the Year 1756 <sup>2</sup> and hope the Measures You have taken are so judicious that Success may attend them and I must desire that you will spare no Pains in this Matter and that you will write me as soon as Possible what the Event may be. I am obliged to you for your Advices relative to the Progress of the Bill for repealing the Stamp Act and whenever any thing occurs in which the Colonies may have any Interest Your giving us the most early

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<sup>1</sup> See Secretary Conway's letter of March 31, 1766, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 486.

<sup>2</sup> See letter of May 15, 1766.

and minute Advice of it will be very agreeable to the Government. I am Sir

Your respectful Friend and humble Servant

SAM : WARD

JOSEPH SHERWOOD Esq<sup>r</sup>

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR WARD.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

By the Polly Capt<sup>n</sup> Gardiner I sent the Acts of Parliament for opening free Ports and for taking the Dutys off Sundry American Commodities.

With my Letter of 15<sup>th</sup> May I sent a Copy of the second Report of the Pay Master General and Secretary at War since which I have with Assiduity and Diligence Solicited the Lords of the Treasury for the Kings Warrant for the sum Reported due to the Colony It was for some time Postponed by that Board by Occasion of the Multiplicity of their Affairs but at length upon my growing Importunate for the money the Lords have thought proper to give me this Positive Answer " That as a Requisition is gone " from the Crown to the Colony the Treasury Board " thinks fitt to suspend the Payment of the money " untill an Answer comes from the Colony relating to " that Requisition." This I Apprehend clearly to relate to the Depredations Committed by the Mob in your Colony (Encouraged and Animated as is Alledged here by some who ought to have known and acted otherwise) on several Persons for their Attachment to the Stamp Act.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See note to letter of May 15.

This is a very unlucky Circumstance but I do not see that I can Proceed any further at present I hope and Expect soon to receive some Instructions from the Colony and then I shall apply to the Treasury again I am with great regard to thy self and the Gent of the General Assembly Their and thy respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

WARNFORD COURT THROGMORTON STREET.

25<sup>th</sup> July 1766.

Esq<sup>r</sup> Pitt is Reported to be Sec<sup>y</sup> of State.<sup>1</sup>

To The Governor and Comp<sup>y</sup> of the Colony of  
Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in  
America

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JOHN ROBINSON AND JOHN NICOLL TO GOVERNOR WARD.

CUSTOM HOUSE 22<sup>d</sup> December 1766.

*Sir.*

As it is upwards of a Year since your Honor received a Commission from the Lords of the Treasury<sup>2</sup> to examine into the Facts advanced in a Letter of ours to the Commissioners of the Customs concerning M<sup>r</sup> Andrews the Judge and M<sup>r</sup> Honeyman the Advocate of the Court of Admiralty; And as M<sup>r</sup> Andrews has prosecuted us at the Suit of the

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<sup>1</sup> Rockingham was dismissed in July, 1766, and Pitt made Earl of Chatham and Prime Minister and Lord Privy Seal. The strongest man in the ministry (for Pitt was already incapacitated by ill health) was Charles Townshend, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

<sup>2</sup> See letter of September 14, 1765, with enclosure. *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 457, 458. Also notes to letter of February 22, 1766.

Crown by way of Indictment and at his own Suit for Defamation, for the Representation we thereby made of his Conduct, We think ourselves under a Necessity of apply<sup>g</sup> to your Honor to know whether any and what Steps have been taken in the Affair; and we are in hopes you'll consider this our Request so reasonable as to induce you to comply with it.

We are, Sir, Y<sup>r</sup> m<sup>t</sup> Obed<sup>t</sup> hble Serv<sup>ts</sup>

JOHN ROBINSON  
JOHN NICOLL

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.<sup>1</sup>

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

My last to the Governour was of the 20<sup>th</sup> of February,<sup>2</sup> in which I Informed of the Proceedings in Parliament in Relation to America.

Since that time the House of Commons of Ordered in a Bill to Prohibit the Legislature of New York from Passing any Act of Assembly untill, they shall have Complied with the Act of Parliament Relating to Billeting Soldiers.<sup>3</sup>

It is also said, and I believe with good Authority, that the Ministry have Resolved upon laying Taxes on Wine, Oil, Fruit, &c Imported into America from

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<sup>1</sup> The Ward-Hopkins controversy had been renewed, and had resulted in a victory for the Providence faction. This was the last trial of strength. In October arrangements were made whereby a compromise candidate was selected. See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 548-554.

<sup>2</sup> Not in the archives.

<sup>3</sup> This was a part of Townshend's plan of action which he brought into the House of Commons on May 13, 1767. He also wished to establish a Board of Commissioners of Customs for America, and to tax glass, red and white lead, painters' colors, paper, and tea.

Portugal and the Madeira's, and also on some other Articles, but the Particulars are not yet known.

I have received no Advices from the Colony for sometime, I did hope to be Informed what the Assembly had done in Relation to the Petitions of Martin Howard Esq<sup>r</sup> and Doctor Moffat.<sup>1</sup> I have not been able to Obtain as yet upon my Application to the Treasury, as mentioned in my last, but hope to be able to write more fully thereon by next Conveyance.

I am with great Regard to thyself and the Gent of the General Assembly

Their and thy Assured Respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD.

WARNFORD COURT THROGMORTON STREET

20<sup>th</sup> May 1767.

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

Foregoing is Duplicate of my last.

I have again moved the Treasury for Payment of the Money, But I have the Strongest Authority, to Inform the Colony, that it will not be Paid till a Reasonable Compensation is made to the Sufferers by Riots. The Money was Stopped by the last Treasury Board, not those now in Office, And the Present Lords of the Treasury do not think themselves Oblidged to Justify, or Account for, every Act of their Predecessors, But however they will not

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<sup>1</sup> See note to letter of May 15, 1766.

undo what they found done when they Entered into their Office, Therefore unless the matter is by some Method or other Compromised with them, it is vain to apply for the Money.

I was Yesterday with One of his Majesty's Ministers, who Complained greatly against the Assembly or Magistracy for Prosecuting the Collector Robinson,<sup>1</sup> the Particulars of his Charges I know not, but I have heard from many hands they are very Greivous; When you know or Expect Complaints of any kind coming over, it would be well to let me have a true State of the Real Facts, for I apprehend they generally come here highly Coloured and aggrevated, and without Information I cannot Contradict and Falsify them.

The Parliament let fall their Design of Taxing the Items mentioned on the other side, But have Passed An Act laying Dutys on Glass, Red lead, Painters Colours, Tea, and Paper, Imported from Great Britain into America, And also another Act Enabling his Majesty to Establish a Board of Customs in America, which two Acts, together with the Prohibition New York Act are all that have Passed this Sessions Relating to America.<sup>1</sup>

I am with great Respect Thy Assured Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

7<sup>th</sup> August 1767.

TO STEPHEN HOPKINS Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governour of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations in New England  
America.

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<sup>1</sup> See notes to letter of December 22, 1766; and for action of the Assembly upon receipt of this letter, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 532, 533.

<sup>2</sup> See note to preceding letter.

LORD SHELBURNE TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF  
RHODE ISLAND.

WHITEHALL October 8<sup>th</sup> 1767.

*Gentlemen*

By the Directions of the Earl of Shelburne I sent  
You the inclosed Copy of an Act passed in the last  
Session of Parliament, Intituled "An Act to enable  
" His Majesty to put the Customs and other Duties,  
" in the British Dominions in America, and the Exe-  
" cution of the Laws relating to Trade there under  
" the Management of Commissioners to be appointed  
" for that Purpose, and to be Resident in this said  
" Dominions."<sup>1</sup>

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

S. MACLEANE

Governor and Company of Rhode Island

TOBIAS SHATTOCK<sup>2</sup> TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY.

CHARLESTON the 8 of Decem<sup>r</sup> A. D. 1767.

*To the Committee appointed by the Hon : Assembly at  
their last Sessions.*

*Gentlemen.* As we have been threatened with ruin  
for a course of Years, by having our Land Sold from

<sup>1</sup> See Sherwood's letter of May 20, 1767.

<sup>2</sup> In October the Assembly had required the Narragansett sachem, Ninigret, to deed the lot whereon stood the Indian school-house in Charlestown to the colony, and had appointed a committee to settle the accounts of the sachem, and to sell the lands of the tribe, if necessary, in order to do so. Thereupon the tribe took the advice of Sir William Johnson, and sent Tobias Shattock to England, as their agent, to present their case to the King. Notwithstanding his efforts, the decree of the Assembly was executed in 1773. See Arnold, *Rhode Island*, II. 279, 328; and *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 534.

us ; that we have greatly fear'd we must come into Bondage with our Children or hear their lamentable Cry for want of Bread ; and be hindred of the blessed Priviledge of worshiping God together as a C<sup>h</sup>, also the benefit of our School, that we have been lately favoured with. We have often Solicited the Hon : Assembly for redress, to little Purpose ; their last Resolve on Indian affairs, in my sincere Opinion is Grievous. Tho' I wou'd not be understood to reflect upon the Government ; but I've tho't certain Gentlemen has endeavoured to advance their Interest by the poor Indians, thinking (perhaps) their extream Poverty, may prevent their being called into Question ; too tho'tless (I fear) that the Supreme God takes cognizance of all their doings.

What I would inform You is, the Indian Tribe has agreed to send me to England for Redress, and have furnish'd me for the Purpose, by Direction of his Excellency S<sup>r</sup> *William Johnston*. Which Design is necessary and laudible, the Injuries, Violations, and Frauds done to the Indians being in my sincere Opinion, grievous, inhuman and incredible, that I can in Integrity do no less than undertake in behalf of my Brethren, not doubting, but *God*, who hates Oppression, will raise me true Friends to lay our Miseries before his most Sacred Majesty, and his most Hon : Privy Council. Which is the earnest Prayer of his Majesties Conscientiously loyal Subject

TOBIAS SHATTOCK

To Colonel JOSEPH HAZSARD at South Kingston

CHARLESTON Dec<sup>r</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 1767

Rec<sup>d</sup> and read before the Committee

Witness F PERRY



MATTHEW ROBINSON TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Sir !*

I should be wanting in due respect to your Honour, and the General Assembly did I not give an Account of my doings in the Comission<sup>1</sup> I was charg'd withal the last Session of Assembly in October last relating to drawing and obtaining an ample Deed from Thomas Ninnegret the Indian Sachem and five of his Counsellors of a Peice of Land in Charlestown for a School. Which is not yet done: ffor that notwithstanding much pains taken by me this Winter I never could get the Plat of the Land 'til last Fryday Week, and the end of last Week I obtain'd the names of the Sachems Counsellors and not before; Wherefore it has not been in my Power to obey the Orders of the Assembly

Be pleas'd Sir! to lay this before the Assembly and exculpate me for the above Reasons from all blame since I never have had them in my Power to execute their Orders, and assure them that I will improve the first Vacancy I shall have between the Courts to accomplish this Business, and in the interim, am the Assembly's and

Y<sup>r</sup> Hon<sup>rs</sup> most hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

MA<sup>T</sup> ROBINSON

S<sup>o</sup> KINGSTON March 1<sup>st</sup> 1768

To his Hon<sup>r</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> HOPKINS

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<sup>1</sup> See note to preceding letter.

JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR HOPKINS.

*Gent.*

The Parliament is Dissolved by Proclamation and the Nobility Gentry &c are Busy about Electioneering. Nothing passed last Sessions materially Affecting the Colonies.

I received the Governors Letters<sup>1</sup> of the 14<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of November the first Containing a very Intelligent Account of the dispute between the Judge of the Admiralty and the late Collector, as the last is removed from the Colony<sup>2</sup> I think no further Notice need be taken of that Affair.

As to the Money in the Treasury you are to Observe, that it never has been Voted by Parliament, it stands only upon the Report of the Pay Master General and Secretary at War in favour of the Colony, and to which the Commons may Assent or Dissent as they think fit, and there Appears not to be the least Probability of Obtaining it till the Requisition of that House is Complied with.

It is some years since I received any money from, or on Account of the Colony, I was Informed that £200 would be Remitted me on Account of the Expences of the Repeal of the Stamp Act, as I have not yet received it, I have taken the Liberty to draw upon the Governor and Company for that Sum, in favour of Joseph Harrison Esq<sup>r</sup> of Boston, which I hope will be Honoured, and I propose to send my

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<sup>1</sup> None of these are in the archives.

<sup>2</sup> John Robinson had been appointed a member of the board of Commissioners of Customs under the new act. This board was stationed at Boston. By their appointment Charles Dudley became collector and surveyor of Rhode Island, in place of Robinson.

Account Current with the Colony soon I am with  
great regard Gent

Your Assured Respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

WARNFORD COURT THROGMORTON STREET

21<sup>st</sup> March 1768.

To The Gov<sup>r</sup> and Company of the Colony of Rhode  
Island and Providence Plantations in America.

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LORD HILLSBOROUGH TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY  
OF RHODE ISLAND.<sup>1</sup>

*Circular.*

(N<sup>o</sup> 6)

WHITEHALL. April the 30<sup>th</sup> 1768.

*Gentlemen,*

I herewith transmit to You Copies of several  
Papers<sup>2</sup> received from the Lords Comm<sup>rs</sup> of His  
Majesty's Treasury relative to the Murder of William  
Odgers, One of the Officers of His Majesty's Cus-  
toms, charged therein upon Melchisedeck Kinsman,  
who sailed about three Weeks since from Falmouth,  
in One of the New York Packets; And I am to  
signify to You His Majesty's Pleasure, that you take  
all legal Methods for the apprehending of the said  
Kinsman, if found within Your Government, to the  
End that He may be brought to Justice.<sup>3</sup>

I am, with great Truth and Regard, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant.

HILLSBOROUGH

Governor and Company of Rhode Island.

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 555.

<sup>2</sup> See the five documents next in order.

<sup>3</sup> See, for action of the Assembly, *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 554.

EDWARD STANLEY TO THOMAS BRADSHAW.<sup>1</sup>

*Sir,*

I received your Note of the 19<sup>th</sup> Instant desiring to have Copies of the Informations against Melchisedeck Kinsman, to transmit to the Governors on the Continent of America; I herewith send You the same, together with a Copy of the Surgeon's Affidavit,<sup>2</sup> who attended William Odgers 'till the Time of his Death, which the Solicitor thinks may also be proper to be sent to the Governors on the Continent of America.

I am &c:

EDW<sup>D</sup> STANLEY.

CUSTOMHOUSE LONDON 21<sup>st</sup> April 1768.

[Enclosure.<sup>3</sup>]

The Voluntary Deposition of Alexander Hampton of the Parish of Redruth in the said County Tinner taken on Oath before Us Thomas Glynn and Hugh Rogers Esq<sup>r</sup> two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the said County to wit Cornwall 15<sup>th</sup> Day of March 1768.

Who saith that on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> of March Instant, he was hired by one James Nicholls of Redruth aforesaid Tinner to assist in bringing some smuggled Goods from the Parish of Landewednack in the said County to Redruth aforesaid. That he arrived at the Church Town of the Parish of Landewednack aforesaid about three o'Clock in the Afternoon and put up his Horse at a Publick House there soon after which the said James Nicholls, and also Melchesedek Kinsman Richard Trenear, David Trenear and Rich<sup>d</sup> Peters all of the Parish of Gwennop in the said County came to the same Place with Intent (as this Deponent appre-

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with letter of April 30, 1768.

<sup>2</sup> See the two following documents.

<sup>3</sup> Enclosed with letter of April 21, 1768.

hended) to carry off some Smuggled Goods which had been landed for them in the said Parish of Landewednack. That within an hour after their Arrival a Report was spread that the Goods were in danger of being seized by some Custom House Officers ; on which one of them said, " Damn these Fellows we " shall lose our Goods, come let us go immediately and endeavour to save them," or Words to that Effect. That immediately the said Melchesedek Kinsman, Richard Trenear, David Trenear and Richard Peters set off from the said House towards a Field about the Distance of an Eighth Part of a Mile, and this Deponent followed them. That on their entering the said Field this Deponent observed one Man standing still and another Man running off. That the said Melchesedek Kinsman Richard Trenear, David Trenear and Richard Peters immediately took up a Stone each in their Hands and approaching within ten or twelve Yards of the Man who stood still forthwith flung the Stones at him ; And thereupon the said Melchesedek Kinsman came upon him and closed with him and threw him to the Ground, and then with a Whip, the Head of which was cased with Copper struck him several Violent Blows on the Head Legs and several Parts of his Body ; during which some of the Company having represented to the said Melchesedek Kinsman that he had beat the Man enough and desiring him to desist said Kinsman said " By God I 'll kill him," or to that Effect, and accordingly continued beating him some time longer. And this Deponent saith that he saw in the said Field several Anchor Casks which he presumes were full of smuggled Liquors, but that after having done the said Mischief the said Melchesedek Kinsman and the others, thought it imprudent to stay in order to bring off the said Casks but got their Horses and rid away as fast as they could. And further saith that he has been informed and believes that the Name of the Person so assaulted and beaten as aforesaid was William Odgers, That he was a Custom House Officer belonging to the Port of Penzance in the said County and that he is since dead of the Wounds received by him as aforesaid.

ALEX<sup>R</sup>. HAMPTON

Sworn before Us

THOMAS GLYNN

HUGH ROGERS.

[Enclosure.<sup>1</sup>]

*In the King's Bench.*

James Smith, of the Parish of Helstone, in the County of Cornwall, surgeon, maketh Oath, that on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March ins<sup>t</sup> about Six OClock in the Afternoon he was sent for and requested to attend on W<sup>m</sup> Odgers, a Customhouse Officer belonging to the Port of Penzance in the s<sup>d</sup> County at the Parish of Landwednack in the s<sup>d</sup> County. That he accordingly went to the said Parish and found the s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Odgers at the House of one Joseph Richards there ;

That on examining the s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Odgers he found that he had received several Wounds and Bruizes in several Parts of his Body, and particularly a violent depression upon the Brain and a Fracture in the left side of the skull, and a compound Fracture in his right Leg, and that the said W<sup>m</sup> Odgers had lost a very large Quantity of Blood, which, with the other Injuries received by him, reduced him so low as to be scarce able to speak.

That he attended the said W<sup>m</sup> Odgers daily from the s<sup>d</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> of March instant on which Day he expired. And this Deponent saith, that according to the best of his Apprehension and Belief the said W<sup>m</sup> Odgers died of the Wounds and Injuries rec<sup>d</sup> by him.

JAMES SMITH

Sworn at Helstone in the County of Cornwall aforesaid the  
20<sup>th</sup> day March 1768

Before me

R JOHNS Commissioner &c.

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THOMAS BRADSHAW TO RICHARD PHELPS.<sup>2</sup>

*Sir,*

I am directed by My Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury to send You the inclosed Copy<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with letter of April 21, 1768.

<sup>2</sup> Enclosed with letter of April 30, 1768.

<sup>3</sup> See the following document.

of a Letter from M<sup>r</sup> Stanley Secretary to the Comm<sup>rs</sup> of the Customs, relative to One Melchisedeck Kinsman who lately murdered W<sup>m</sup> Odgers One of their Officers at Penzance; And who sailed about 3 Weeks since from Falmouth in One of the New York Packets; And to desire You will Move the Earl of Hillsborough to give such Orders to the several Governors on the Continent of N<sup>o</sup> America for apprehending the said Kinsman as His Lordship shall think proper.

I am &c:

THO<sup>s</sup>. BRADSHAW.

TREASURY CHAMBERS 25<sup>th</sup> April 1768.

RICHARD PHELPS Esq<sup>r</sup>

=====

EDWARD STANLEY TO THOMAS BRADSHAW.<sup>1</sup>

*Sir,*

William Odgers, one of the Officers of the Customs at the Port of Penzance in the County of Cornwall, having been lately barbarously murdered by Melchisedeck Kinsman and others, in endeavouring to seize and secure a large Quantity of uncustomed Goods; and the Collector of Penryn having informed the Commissioners that the said Kinsman sailed from Falmouth about three Weeks since in one of the New York Packets, and hath carried off with him about £800 in Cash, I am directed to acquaint You therewith and to beg You will move the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, that Orders

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<sup>1</sup> Enclosed with letter of April 25, 1768.

may be sent to the several Governors on the Continent of America to take such Measures as may be most effectual for the apprehending of the said Melchisedeck Kinsman, for which purpose have annexed a Description of his Person and in case he should in Consequence thereof be apprehended that he may be sent to England by the first safe and proper Opportunity that may offer, in order to his being tried for the said Offence.

I am &c.

E<sup>d</sup> STANLEY.

CUSTOMHOUSE LONDON 14 April 1768.

Melchisedec Kinsman is a well set Man about five Feet eight Inches high, and about thirty Years of Age, florid Complexion, his Hair light brown but wears a Wig.

TH<sup>o</sup> BRADSHAW Esq.

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THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES TO THE HOUSE OF BURGESSES  
OF VIRGINIA.

NEWPORT June the 20<sup>th</sup> 1768.

*Sir*

I have the Honor of your Letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> of May<sup>1</sup> - last, directed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of this Colony; which I laid before the House, at the opening of the Session, last Week,

The early Resolves of the Honorable House of Burgesses in Virginia, upon the ever memorable Stamp Act; and the decent, firm, and constitutional,

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<sup>1</sup> Not in the archives.



Measures they have now taken, for restoring and preserving the just Rights and Privileges of his Majestys loyal Subjects in America, have gain'd them the Applause of every Friend of Liberty; and, will be transmitted with Honor to the latest Ages; while the Names of the venal Sycophants of Power, and their corrupt Defendants will be buried in Oblivion, or handed down to Posterity with Detestation and Infamy.

I have the Pleasure, Sir, to inform you, that the Lower House of Assembly, in this Colony, entertain exactly the same Sentiments of the late Acts of Parliament for raising a Revenue in the Colonies,<sup>1</sup> with the Honble House of Burgesses in Virginia; and, animated with the same Zeal, will chearfully join the Sister Colonies, in every prudent, and legal Measure for asserting those Rights and Privileges, which they derive from Nature, and from the British Constitution.

The General Assembly of this Colony have appointed a Committee to prepare a humble, dutiful, and loyal Address to his Majesty; setting forth the Grievances his Subjects in America have just Reason to complain of, and praying his Royal Interposition for Redress; and, also, a Letter to the Secretary of State for the American Department, upon the same Subject;<sup>2</sup> which are to be laid before them, at their meeting on the Second Monday in September next: At which Session the General Assembly will complete them, and forward them in such Season,

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<sup>1</sup> The Townshend Acts of May, 1767.

<sup>2</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 556.

that they will arrive before the Opening of the new Parliament; and will have taken every proper Step for co-operating with the other Colonies in this most important Concern.

His Majesty hath no Subjects more faithful than those in America, none who would more chearfully offer up their Lives and Fortunes for His Glory, and the Interest of the whole Empire. They have a high Idea of the Excellence of the British Constitution, and a proper Sense of the Obedience that Constitution requires they should pay to the British Parliament; and are universally persuaded that their Connection with, and Dependence, upon Great Britian, is essential to their Happiness. This the Lower House are convinced, is the Character the Inhabitants of the British Colonies in America deserve. And, notwithstanding the false and malicious Representations which have been made by the Enemies of this Country, and, it may be added, of the Mother Country also, they entertain the strongest Hopes, that Truth will prevail; that the united Petitions of so many loyal Subjects to his Majesty (who is truly esteemed the Father of all his People) will engage his Royal Attention and Interposition in their Favour; that the Constitution will be again established on its original Basis, that all Jealousy and Fear will subside; and that Harmony and Affection between the Parent State and the Colonies will be restored and flourish, to the mutual Benefit and Felicity of all his Majesty's Subjects.

In the Name, and by order of the Lower House  
of Assembly,

I am with great Respect,

Sir Your most obed<sup>t</sup> humble Serv

METCALFE BOWLER Speaker.

Sep<sup>r</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 1768

The foregoing Letter was approbated by the unani-  
mous Vote of the House

W<sup>m</sup> ELLERY Clerk

To the Honble PEYTON RANDOLPH Esq<sup>r</sup> Speaker  
of the Honble House of Burgesses of the Colony  
of Virginia



THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-  
TIVES OF MASSACHUSETTS.

NEWPORT Aug<sup>t</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 1768.

S<sup>r</sup>

The Letter from the Honorable House of Repre-  
sentatives of the Massachusetts Bay of the 16<sup>th</sup> Feb-  
ruary last,<sup>1</sup> I had the Honor to receive and to lay  
before the Lower House of Assembly of this Colony  
at the Session held on the last Monday of the same  
Month.

I should immediately after the Rising of the As-  
sembly have acknowledged the receipt of that Letter,  
but the General Assembly having taken it into con-  
sideration and appointed a Committee to prepare  
an humble dutiful and loyal Address to his Majesty

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<sup>1</sup> There is such a letter printed under date of February 11, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 535.

representing the Grievances of His faithful Subjects in America and imploring his Royal Interposition in their Behalf; and also a Letter to One of the principal Secretaries of State upon the Subject of the late Acts of Parliament for raising a Revenue in America,<sup>1</sup> I concluded to postpone it until the General Assembly should have taken every prudent and necessary Measure for co-operating with the other Colonies in asserting their just Rights and Privileges, purposing then to do my self the Honor if I still remained in the Chair of giving you a particular Account of the Steps pursued by this Colony.

It was expected that the Committee would have reported to the Session held in June last; but they not having fully compleated the Draughts, and it being considered that the Assembly would meet again early in September next when they might be finished and transmitted Home before the Meeting of Parliament the Matter was referred to that Time.

As the Silence of this Colony at this critical Juncture when all His Majestys Subjects in America are so justly alarmed may be liable to Misconstruction I have thought proper to give you this Information; and to assure you as I do with great Sincerity that the Lower House of Assembly of this Colony highly approve the Conduct of your Honorable House of Representatives. They think the Measures are worthy of the Representatives of a free People and perfectly consistent with that Loyalty to His Majesty

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<sup>1</sup> There is such a letter, printed under date of February 11, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 535.

and that Regard for the British Constitution which have always distinguished the Province of the Massachusetts Bay.

I am with great Respect S<sup>r</sup>

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

METCALFE BOWLER Speaker

Sep<sup>r</sup> 13 1768

To the Honble THOMAS CUSHING Esq<sup>r</sup>

The foregoing Letter was approbated by the unanimous Vote of the Lower House of Assembly

W. ELLERY Cler



GOVERNOR BOTETOURT<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR WARD.

S<sup>r</sup>

I have the honour to acquaint Your Excellence that His Majesty has been Graciously pleased to appoint me Governor of Virginia, that I am arrived at Williamsburg, shall always be happy to concur with You in any Measures which may tend to the Advantage of this Great Continent and that I am with respect

Your Excellencys very Obedient Humble Servant  
BOTETOURT.

WILLIAMSBURG Dec: 24<sup>th</sup> 1768.

His Excellency Governor WARD

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<sup>1</sup> Botetourt was the last colonial governor of Virginia. He succeeded Fauquier in 1768. His efforts to bring about a reconciliation between the colonists and the mother country were sincere, and he keenly felt their failure.

JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR LYNDON.<sup>1</sup>

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>.*

Thy favour of 3<sup>d</sup> Oct:<sup>r</sup><sup>2</sup> with sundry Papers respecting the Crown Point money I received and Immediately waited on the present Chancellor of the Exchequer and stated the Case to him, he received me Courteously and I had hopes of Success from my Interview with him, and I Accordingly Exhibitted my Memorial afresh to the Lords of the Treasury and Attended the Board sev<sup>l</sup> times thereon But after the same was read and Considered they came to a Resolution to postpone giving an Answer thereto for the present which is all that I can obtain at this Time.

Thy Letter of 14<sup>th</sup> Nov:<sup>r</sup> 1768 came also to hand and Inclosed is a Copy of the King's free Pardon Attested by one of Lord Hillsbrough's Clerks the Original is left with the Recorder of London this is a Sufficient Authority for thee to Issue thy Warrant to discharge her.<sup>3</sup>

Inclosed is my Account with the Colony. I hope the Assembly will Agree to allow me what I have taken the Liberty of charging (tho' with submission to the Assembly) for the stated Yearly allowance

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<sup>1</sup> The compromise candidate referred to in note to letter of May 20, 1767. Josias Lyndon was an amiable man, who had for many years served the colony as clerk of the court of common pleas. He was nominated by the Hopkins party from among Ward's friends, as previously agreed. The deputy-governor was nominated in the same way by the Ward party. Lyndon served but one year, and then returned to his former office.

<sup>2</sup> Not in the archives. The Parliamentary grant for 1756 is meant.

<sup>3</sup> The reference is to the pardon of a negro woman, convicted of the murder of her bastard child.

upon the Old Establishment is very inadequate to the Trouble and Attendance required in Transacting the Business of the Colony. More especially of late Years they have required great Solicitation and Application, the Consideration of which I shall submit to the Generosity of the Assembly, and if the Assembly should Resolve not to let my Account stand as it now does I must request I may Receive a Remittance for so much as is allowed to be justly due to me I am with great regard to thyself and the Gent of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly, their and thy respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

WARNFORD COURT THROGMORTON STREET 4 Feb: 1769.

To JOSIAS LYNDON Esq<sup>r</sup>

Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in  
New England      America.

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO MOSES BROWN.<sup>1</sup>

*Respected Fr<sup>d</sup>*

I received thy favour of 14<sup>th</sup> March and gladly Embrace a Correspondence, which I wish may be continued; I have sent my Acco<sup>t</sup> I believe in time for the last May assembly but what has been done thereon I know not, having received no Advices from the Assembly for a considerable time, I sho<sup>d</sup> Esteem it

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<sup>1</sup> Copied from the Moses Brown Papers, in the Rhode Island Historical Society. Moses Brown, the well-known merchant and philanthropist, was a deputy for Providence in 1769 and in 1770.

a particular favour to receive from thee by the first Conveyance after the closing of a Sessions, an Acco<sup>t</sup> of so much of their Business as relates to myself, and also whatever is proper and necessary for me to know.

I observe thy Advice in respect to keeping up a regular Correspondence with the Colony and shall pay proper regard to it. I never did according to the best of my Recollection and Belief receive any Vote of Assembly or Order for Mediterranean passes, If I had I sho<sup>d</sup> have complied with it.

I am Thy respectful Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

WARNFORD COURT THROGMORTON STREET

21<sup>st</sup> July 1769

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR WANTON.<sup>1</sup>

*Esteemed Fr<sup>d</sup>*

Pursuant to the requisition in thy favour of 21<sup>st</sup> June I have sent Ten Mediterranean passes,

In respect to the money due to the Colony, I have Used my Utmost Endeavours to Obtain the payment, but as it has never yet been Voted by the House of Commons, it cannot be procured but by a Compliance with the Parliamentary requisition respecting the sufferers by the Riots.<sup>2</sup>

There has been but little Business done since the

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<sup>1</sup> For an account of Governor Wanton see p. xxxii of the *Introduction*. He was elected in May, 1769.

<sup>2</sup> See Wanton's letter to Lord Hillsborough of June 17, 1769, in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 590.



sitting of the present Parliament, Occasioned by the death of the Speakers; Sir Fletcher Norton is Appointed Speaker of the House of Commons in the stead of S<sup>r</sup> John Cust deceased.

The Commons have Ordered the Papers relating to America to be laid before them, and they are to enter upon the Consideration of the General State of America, some Day next Week, I shall Advise you so soon as any Resolutions are formed, I am with all due regard to thyself and the Gent of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly

Their and thy respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

WARNFORD COURT THROGMORTON STREET

26 Jan = 70

To JOSEPH WANTON Esq<sup>r</sup>

Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island and  
Providence Plantations  
in New England America

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THE ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND TO THE ASSEMBLY OF RHODE  
ISLAND.

MARYLAND Feb<sup>y</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1770

*Sir,*

A Copy of the resolutions of the House of Burgesses of the Colony of Virginia entered into the 16<sup>th</sup> of May last<sup>1</sup> being sent to me by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Speaker was laid before the House of Delegates of this Province at their Session in November last who

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<sup>1</sup> The Virginia resolutions are printed in *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VI. 603.

upon full consideration thereof were of opinion they could not more clearly evince their approbation of the conduct of the very respectable House of Burgesses of His Majesty's Antient colony of Virginia on so alarming an occasion than by readily and unanimously entering into resolutions of a similar nature. A Copy of which in obedience to their order I now transmit to you,<sup>1</sup> as I do to the Speakers of all the Other Houses of Assembly on the Continent and am with the greatest respect S<sup>r</sup>

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv

ROB<sup>t</sup> LLOYD Speaker

Rhode Island.

*Resolutions of the House of Delegates of Maryland.<sup>2</sup>*

By the Lower House of Assembly of the Province of Maryland November Session 1769.

Resolved unanimously, That the Representatives of the Freemen of this Province in their legislative Capacity, with the Assent of the other Part of the Legislature, have the sole Right to lay Taxes and impositions on the Inhabitants of this Province, on their Property and Effects; and that the laying, imposing, levying, or collecting, any Tax, on, or from the Inhabitants of Maryland under Colour of any other Authority, is unconstitutional, and a direct Violation of the Rights of the Freemen of this Province.

Resolved unanimously, That it is the undoubted Privilege of the inhabitants of this Province to Petition their Sovereign for Redress of Grievances, and that it is Lawful and expedient to procure the concurrence of His Majesty's other Colonies, in dutiful Addresses, praying the royal Interposition, in Favour of the Violated Rights of America.

Resolved unanimously, That all Trials for Treason Misprison of Treason, or of any Felony or Crime whatsoever committed or

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<sup>1</sup> See the following documents.

<sup>2</sup> Enclosed with letter of February 26, 1770.

done in this Province, ought of Right to be had and conducted in and before the Courts of Law held within this Province, according to the fixed and known course of Proceeding; And that the Seizing any Person, or Persons, suspected of any Crime whatsoever committed in this Province, and Sending Such Person, or Persons to Places beyond the Sea to be tried is highly derogatory of the Rights of British Subjects as thereby the Inestimable Privilege of being tried by a Jury from the Vicinage as well as the Liberty of Summoning and procuring Witnesses on such Trial will be taken away from the Party accused.



JOSEPH WANTON, JR.,<sup>1</sup> TO MOSES BROWN.<sup>2</sup>

NEWPORT April the 5<sup>th</sup> 1770

*Dr. Sir*

I Wrote Yesterday to Gov<sup>r</sup>. Hopkins in great Haste and in a very Uncompos'd state of mind, having just Discover'd Fresh Instances of the Rancour and Malice of the Wards and their adherents, I am now Convinced that they are Determin'd to Displace the Gov<sup>r</sup>. if in their power, Ward has been in Town this Week past and by his Incessant Application has Rekindled I suspect the Flame in some that before were still, and by his Servile Behaviour has I doubt not Accomplish'd his Ends in the Money Way, how much know not yet. will our Friends your way Tamely Submit to this common Disturber of the Peace of the Colony? I mention'd to M<sup>r</sup>. Hopkins raising what could be done your Way and the

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<sup>1</sup> Joseph Wanton, Jr., was deputy-governor from 1764 to 1767, and a supporter of the Hopkins interest. He joined the loyalists in New York during the British occupation, and died there in 1780.

<sup>2</sup> Copied from the Moses Brown Papers, in the Rhode Island Historical Society.

Double of it should be rais'd here be it more or less, let me Intreat of you to Instantly attend to this. I dont Believe our Enemies Subscriptions runs very high yet — a Letter sign'd by a Number of Gentlemen at Providence to the Gov<sup>r</sup> expressing their Surprise that his Friends in Newport want that Spirit that Wards shows, may have a good Effect and Prepare them for the Application which has not yet been made.

H. Ward is out, looking for a D: Gov<sup>r</sup>, tis said here that M<sup>r</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> Green is the Man. J. G. Wanton is abroad also, I suppose at Providence or Warwick, fixing the Deputies for those County's as will best Answer his own Ends. I Beg very earnestly the Favour of you to Write our Friends in particular at Warwick respecting the Deputies, and throughout that and your County, the D: Governor I expect will take the sole care of those County's, but pray you and M<sup>r</sup> Hopkins to do it also. dont yet know who is the Warwick Magistrate, must have it by Saturday Night tell the D. Gov<sup>r</sup>.

The Committee have been setting several days here, and Finisht their Business, unanimously agreeing in the Affair of the Gov<sup>r</sup> the Inclos'd is an Answer to a Letter from the Gov<sup>r</sup> to thine, which have their Permission to Publish, this with the Letter shall be done on my Return from the Court at Little Rest where I'm this moment going. have sent you the Inclos'd that the Contents may be Circulated in the County, but as Copy's given out.

My best Regards to D<sup>r</sup> Bowen, he will readily excuse my not Writing him when he knows the Infin-

ite Perplexity and trouble I am Surrounded with,  
Apologize to all our Friends for these omissions.

I am y<sup>r</sup> Affectn<sup>ly</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup> &c.

J. WANTON J<sup>r</sup>

MOSES BROWN Esq<sup>r</sup>

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MOSES BROWN TO JOSEPH SHERWOOD.<sup>1</sup>

PROVIDENCE June 1770

S<sup>r</sup>

Your favor of 24<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> is come to hand contents of which I duly note, have nothing to advise you only the Resolution of the Colonies to Continue their nonImportation Agreements Untill the duty on Tea be Repeald, which they Consider as a Design of the Ministry to Continue as a Test of their Right of Taxing the Colonies We are Sinsable that Article Comes Cheaper now than before but are not thereby to be Induced to Receive the Bate, many people here Apprehend a prohibition or nonimportation of Tea only would have been as well and Renew'd the Other Trade in General but this So far from pleasing the people that they have Taken the Matter Up and Seem Resolutely Determin'd to have as Little From Brittain as they Can do with untill the Duty be Taken of I wish to hear of the Matter's being Some way Setled with the India Comp<sup>y</sup> as hinted, and that there may be that harmony as heretofore Subsistd Take place between Brittain and the Colonys who are now very Jealous even to the Lowest Peasants

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<sup>1</sup> Copied from the Moses Brown Papers, in the Rhode Island Historical Society.

MOSES BROWN TO JOSEPH SHERWOOD.<sup>1</sup>

PROVIDENCE July 3<sup>d</sup> 1770.

*Mr Sherwood Sr,*

Yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March is before Me in which you Acknowledge the Rec<sup>t</sup> of mine of the 30<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> but that of the 3<sup>d</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> wherein I acquainted you of what had been Done in the General Assembly respecting your Acc<sup>t</sup> make no mention of I have now to Acquaint you that at June Sessions of Assembly I applyd to the Upper House to Consider of the Recommendation of 2 of the Committee that Audited your Acct<sup>s</sup> in hopes as Gov<sup>r</sup> Hopkins with some other of your friends are now in the Lower House Something might be done, the Upper House Accordingly Sent down the following Message " In the Upper house June 12<sup>th</sup> 1770. this House have taken into Consideration the Vote of the Lower House passd at October Sessions last upon the Agents Acct<sup>s</sup> and are of Opinion that the Allowance Made him by that Vote is not adequate to his Services and therefore recommend to the Lower House to Reconsider the Said Vote, and make him a further Allowance." Upon which a debate arising from the old Quarter a Vote wass had wether a further Allowance Should be Made or not which pass'd in the Negative<sup>2</sup> And the Treasurer Directed to pay you the Balance of £43.7.10 Stg.

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<sup>1</sup> Copied from the Moses Brown Papers, in the Rhode Island Historical Society.

<sup>2</sup> This vote may be found in the manuscript *Journal* of the House for the June session, 1770, and on the next page it is recorded that the Upper House concurred in adopting the report of the committee appointed to audit the agent's accounts. The vote on the accounts is in the manuscript *Records* for 1770, p. 683.

At this time it was moved by Several Members that John Madsley Esq<sup>r</sup> Should be Sent for before the House to Acquaint them Respecting the Colonys money Detain'd in Eng<sup>d</sup> he having before Told Several Members that it was his Opinion that the Money might be got if properly Applyd for and Signifying to them you had not Done what might have been, he Accordingly Attended and Informd that he had Some Conversation with you about it and that he Told you he tho't you Ought to have Applyd to parliament &c. and that he Desired a friend of his (a person of the Law his Name Dont now Recollect) to make Enquiry at the offices about it who Could not find that any Endeavors had lately been Used by you to Recover it and that it was his friends Opinion as well as his own that it might be Easily Recovered by propper Aplication, Upon this the Matter was Rested for Consideration and the Sessions pasd without anything further being done, by this you will think with Me there is a Design of Shiffting the Agency by Some, indeed Tho<sup>s</sup> Freebodie a Member of Newport with one or Two Others there Moved it Others propos'd this Gen<sup>l</sup> or Some Other Should be Joind with you and I apprehend from the Temper of the House after M<sup>r</sup> Madsleys Acc<sup>t</sup> there probably may.<sup>1</sup> we Shall Endeavor to Continue You alone tho' if I could entertain a doubt

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<sup>1</sup> In the sessions of May, 1771, the attorney-general for Rhode Island, Henry Marchant, was empowered to act for the colony in conjunction with Sherwood "in all matters and things, which are now pending, or that may hereafter arise, in which this colony is, or may be interested, during his residence in Great Britain." *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VII. 29. Arnold says that he returned in the fall of 1772 with "encouraging reports of the prospect of speedy payment," which were never realized. *History of Rhode Island*, II. 323.

of your Endeavors for the Colonys Interest I might Say in Justice to my Constituents I could no Longer Support you at present. I conclude the Gen<sup>t</sup> mentiond to be a Sollicitor of M<sup>r</sup> Mawdsley in his Case in Chancery and who he wanted to favor with that Office perhaps to Save his Own Cause as I have before Taken him to be your friend. Tho' upon his being Ask'd if he could Recommend that Gen<sup>t</sup> as an Agent he Said it was a Matter of Too Much Consequence for him the Only person that Knew anything of him but at the same time gave as favorable an Acc<sup>t</sup> of his Character Ability &c as Necessary. I have thus been free to Communicate what pass'd which you will Consider as from One as fully Attachd to your Interest as before I had any of this Acc<sup>t</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Madsley as I consider it arising from some Disaffection to you or Attachment to the other tho' his Answers to the House were modest and he then Shewd no UnEasiness with you.

I have now to Represent to you and Desire your Attention to a Matter that is highly Interesting to this Colony and which I have with your friends in General a particular desire that you Examin after. I am

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO MOSES BROWN.<sup>1</sup>

*Est<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>*

Upon looking over my Plantation Letter Book, I do not find I ever acknowledged the Receipt of thy favor of 3<sup>d</sup> November last, for which I am much

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<sup>1</sup> Copied from the Moses Brown Papers, in the Rhode Island Historical Society.



obliged to thee; I think the Assembly have treated me hardly. I have had no remittance at all even of the Sum they think fit to allow me, nor have I lately received any Advices from the Colony.

As to the Money due to Rhode Island it never has been Voted by Parliament, so that it is not in the Treasury, nor will it ever be till the Parliamentary Requisition for making Compensation to the sufferers is Complied with.<sup>1</sup>

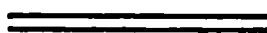
The Merchants are Shipping off great Quantities of Goods to New York, so that it appears to us the Importation will soon become general, as the rest of the Colonies must, we apprehend import in their own Defence.

I am with great regard Thy ass<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

WARNFORD COURT THROGMORTON STREET

4<sup>th</sup> Sept: 1770



JONATHAN ARNOLD TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

*To the Honorable General Assembly now sitting at East Greenwich on the Second Monday of September [1770].*

Jonathan Arnold Clerk of the Superior Court for the County of Providence comes before your honors and gives your honors to understand and be informed, that he is very sensible of the Honor done him by your Honors repeatedly electing him to the Office afores<sup>d</sup> yet nevertheless finding it so very incompat-

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<sup>1</sup> See note to letter of May 15, 1766.

ible with his Interest to Serve in that Capacity, he hereby informs your honors that he thankfully resigns the Offic afores<sup>d</sup> into the hands of the Honorable Assembly and hopes they may find a much better and abler Person to serve in that Office.

JON<sup>A</sup> ARNOLD

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO MOSES BROWN.<sup>1</sup>

*Est<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>*

I have already wrote to thee by this Conveyance, since which to wit; Yesterday, I received thy Favour of the 3<sup>d</sup> July; between us, I think the Assembly have used me very unkindly in regard to my Account, and that I merit much more than they have thought fit to allow me.

I do not much wonder at Freebody's Motion tho' I never had any Correspondence with him, but I was concerned against him and his Brother in an Appeal before the King and Council in which I prevailed to the Utmost of my Client's Wishes; this alone to a narrow minded Man might be Sufficient to make him my Enemy, but I do Confess I am astonish'd at my Old Friend Mawdesley and could not have Expected such Treatment from him. I have not time at present to say what I have to say on the Subject and therefore cannot enlarge upon it, But thus far I will say. —

I have done every thing in the power of Man to do respecting that Money Affair. That an Applica-

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<sup>1</sup> Copied from the Moses Brown Papers, in the Rhode Island Historical Society.

tion to Parliament would have been Improper and Fruitless.

I am now very much Abridged for time the Captain having already taken away his Bag and this is Convoied to the Ship by a private Hand but by the next Conveyance I flatter myself I shall be able to lay before thee such Information as will prevent thy Entertaining the least doubt of my Endeavours for the Colonys Interest.

I shall take the necessary Care, about the Massachusetts Incroachment with Expedition and write thee speedily.

As I have wrote the above in haste and under some Degree of Warmth Occasioned by the unexpected Defection of my Quondam Friend Mawdesley,

I hope thou will Excuse any Improproprieties, I have a gratefull Sence of thy Friendship and it is in full Confidence of that I have unbosomed myself to thee the further particulars of my Justification I must postpone till the next Opportunity.

I am with great Regard

Thy respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

15<sup>th</sup> Sept: 1770.

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JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO MOSES BROWN.<sup>1</sup>

*Est<sup>d</sup> Fr<sup>d</sup>*

I wrote thee a few days ago per the Rockingham, Reed; I now sit down to Answer thy Observations respecting the Money Business more at large; true

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<sup>1</sup> Copied from the Moses Brown Papers, in the Rhode Island Historical Society.

it is that Captain Mawdesley did tell me he thought I should Apply to Parliament but I told him then which I repeat now that an Application to Parliament (at that time especially) would be Improper and totally fruitless.

Neither Esq<sup>r</sup> Mawdesley or the People of the Colony have a proper Understanding of the Nature of this Business in General or the Situation of the Affair in Particular, for they Imagine the Money is Issued and in the Treasury but it is no such Matter it has never yet been Voted by Parliament

In Order to give Sanction to our Application to Parliament we must have the Concurrence of the Lords of the Treasury without which the House of Commons pay no regard to any Petition or Application whatsoever relating to Money Matters this Concurrence I have Endeavoured from time to time to Obtain but have always been refused upon the Ground of your not having Complied with the Parliamentary Requisition.

I some time ago drew a Concise Account of the Case of the Colony and printed it one of which is Inclosed. I had these Delivered to the Lords of the Treasury, their Secretarys, the Secretarys of State, Lord Hilsborough and several others I have used every Mode of Application that is proper for which I dare Appeal to Joseph Harrison<sup>1</sup> Esq<sup>r</sup> who I believe Understands the Business of the Treasury Department much better than Captain Mawdesley or his Friend, who no doubt if the Design is to get him

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<sup>1</sup> See note to letter of August 6, 1762.

the Agency will use their Endeavours to pick — a Hole in my Coat.

I do again repeat that an Application to Parliament would have been Improper Imprudent and Fruitless.

First It is absolutely necessary to have the Recommendation of the Treasury Board all the rest of the Colonies had that Recommendation and without it the parliament will pay no regard to a Petition and tho' I am very Confident of this of my own knowledge yet I do not Ground myself upon that Intirely for I have Consulted with several Gentlemen hereon, Members of Parliament, Agents, the principal parliamentary Sollicitors, and all to a Man discouraged my Application to Parliament.

Second — Supposing the Application to Parliament was regular, yet, there is not the least Probability of Success at this time the House of Commons will reject the Application now as the Colony refuses or at least postpones a Compliance with the Requisitions of that House.<sup>1</sup>

Third — Supposing a parliamentary Application proper every one knows those Applications are Attended with great Expence the Petition Supposing it received at all must be referred to a Committee, Council must be Employed to Attend the Committee, and the House, the smallest Fees of each Council is

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<sup>1</sup> In December, 1772, the sum of £179 10s. 6d. sterling was granted to Dr. Moffatt, as compensation for the damage he sustained by the riots of 1765; "to be paid when the General Assembly shall receive information that the money due from the crown, to the colony, for their services in the expedition against Crown Point, in the year 1756, shall be received by the agent for this colony, in Great Britain." *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VII. 202. See also Wanton's letter to Lord Dartmouth, *Ibid.*, VII. 222.

ten Guineas per day so that here would be an Expence of perhaps £200 Incurred. I do therefore ask whether it would have been prudent or proper for me to have taken such a Step and Incurred such an Expence without Instructions from the Colony so to do which I never had.

It would be a very desirable thing to me to receive the money and I now hope that I have fully satisfied thee that I have used my utmost Endeavours for that purpose.

I wrote my last Letter hastily if there is any thing either in that or this Improper I hope thou will excuse it.

I think it would be proper to Communicate the above to Stephen Hopkins Esq<sup>r</sup>

I am Thy Ass<sup>d</sup> respectfull Fr<sup>d</sup>

JOSEPH SHERWOOD

22<sup>d</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1770.

N B. Since Writing the above I have also wrote to Stephen Hopkins Esq<sup>r</sup>



J. POWNALL TO GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF RHODE ISLAND.

*Circular.*

WHITEHALL 1<sup>st</sup> July 1772.

*Gentlemen,*

I send you herewith, by the Earl of Hillsborough's Directions, printed Copies of such Acts passed in the last Session of Parliament, as relate to America.

I also inclose His Majesty's gracious Speech to

both Houses of Parliament on the 9<sup>th</sup> of last Month,  
I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant

J POWNALL

Governor and Company of Rhode Island.



LORD DARTMOUTH<sup>1</sup> TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF  
RHODE ISLAND.

WHITEHALL 3<sup>d</sup> March 1773.

*Gentlemen,*

It appearing by a letter from Rear Admiral Montagu to the Lords of the Admiralty, dated the 19<sup>th</sup> of January, that the Fort, in the Harbour of Rhode Island, had not paid the proper Respect to the British Flag; The King, who is justly incensed at such an Indignity, has commanded me to signify to you His Majesty's Pleasure; that you do give the necessary Orders that His Majesty's Ships of War, coming into any of the Ports within the Colony of Rhode Island, and having an Admiral's Flag or broad Pennant hoisted, be saluted in such manner as is usual in all other Parts of His Majesty's Dominions in America.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant

DARTMOUTH

Governor and Company of Rhode Island.

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<sup>1</sup> Appointed Secretary of State in 1772.

LORD DARTMOUTH TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF  
RHODE ISLAND.

WHITEHALL 10 April 1773.

*Gentlemen,*

Having received and laid before The King a Letter from M<sup>r</sup> Wanton dated the 16<sup>th</sup> of February last,<sup>1</sup> on the subject of a claim which he expresses to be a demand of the Colony of Rhode Island upon the Crown, to be reimbursed a sum of money expended by the said Colony for public services in the late War; I have received His Majestyss Commands to transmit the letter, and the papers inclosed, to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, and as I shall be glad of any opportunity of shewing a favourable attention to the interests of the Colony, I shall not fail to recommend the present application to the attention of the Treasury Board.

I am Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

DARTMOUTH

Governor and Company of Rhode Island.

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THE EXECUTORS OF JOSEPH SHERWOOD TO THE GOVERNOR  
AND COMPANY OF RHODE ISLAND.

LONDON 26<sup>th</sup> June 1773.

*The Governor and Comp<sup>y</sup> of the Province of Rhode  
Island &c<sup>a</sup>*

*Respected Friends*

We have with sorrow to advise you of the Decease of your Late Agent, and our worthy Friend Joseph

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<sup>1</sup> See *Col. Rec. of R. I.*, VII. 222.



Sherwood, who departed this Life on the first of this month, after a short indisposition. We being appointed his Executors, on Looking over his Affairs find that he drew a bill on you for Two Hundred Pounds Sterling to the order of Ralph Inman Esq<sup>r</sup> of Boston on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March Last, which bill we understand you have suffer'd to be Noted, because he had not sent you his Acco<sup>t</sup> Curr<sup>t</sup> with your Colony at the same time. and also because he had not acknowledged the receipt of your remittance for £43. 7. 10: in the year 1769; which objections we shall now remove, first by acknowledging that he did receive that sum from you, and that we shall consider it in full to that year; and next, by sending you his Acco<sup>t</sup>.<sup>1</sup> Curr<sup>t</sup> subsequent to that time, which you will receive inclosd and thereby perceive there is a Ballance of Three Hundred and Twenty Three pounds 3/ 8<sup>d</sup> Sterling due from the Colony to his Estate. On Examining this Acco<sup>t</sup> we make no doubt it will be found right, and regularly passed, especially as the Salary therein charged is no more than you formerly have thought reasonable, tho' he certainly thought it inadequate to the Appointment; on this Acco<sup>t</sup> we hope you will please to order payment of the said bill for Two Hundred pounds, and also the remainder of the Ballance, being One Hundred and Twenty Three pounds 3/ 8<sup>d</sup> Sterling to our friend Ralph Inman Esq<sup>r</sup> of Boston, whose discharge to you shall be deemed sufficient on our Account.

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<sup>1</sup> See enclosure.

We hope for your compliance in this matter and are with much respect.

Your Assured Freends

ANN SHERWOOD

THO<sup>s</sup> KELLAM

To The Governor and Company of the Colony of  
Rhode Island and Providence Plantation in  
New England  
Rhode Island

[Enclosure.]

At the Assembly held the third Monday in August, 1773, the manuscript record reads as follows:

Whereas the following Account was exhibited to this Assembly, to wit:

D<sup>r</sup> The Colony of Rhode Island, in New England, in America,  
with the Establishment of Joseph Sherwood.

1770.	To Cash paid Fees for the Pardon of a } Negro . . . . . }	£5.. 5.. -
	To Cash paid for Ten Mediterranean Passes } and sundry Expences thereon . . . . . }	13.. 13.. -
Aug <sup>t</sup> 20.	To One Years Salary due this Day . . . . .	40.. - -
	To Expences and Gratuities to the Clerks, } Messengers and DoorKeepers, of the sev- } eral Public Offices, the Houses of Lords } and Commons, Coach-Hire and other } Petty Expences during said Year . . . . }	30.. - -
1771	} Paid for copying Papers relating to the } Jan <sup>r</sup> } Stamp-Act Riots, . . . . . }	1.. 10 -
Aug <sup>t</sup> 20.		
	To One Years Salary . . . . .	40.. - -
	To Expences and Gratuities as before . . .	30.. - -
	To Bill of Costs relating to the Boundaries .	14.. 1.. -
	Paid copying all the Papers relating to the } Money due from the Crown to the Colony }	2.. - -
1772,	} To One Years Salary . . . . . }	40.. - -
Aug <sup>t</sup>		
	To Expences and Gratuities as before . . .	30.. - -

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Correspondence of the

	Paid Postage of Letters relating to the Gas-	}			
	pee Schooner . . . . .		1..	2..	4..
	Paid making Fac Simile Copies of the said	}			
	Papers . . . . .		1..	-	-
	Paid Postage of Affidavits and Papers from	}			
	Rhode Island, relating to Doctor Moffats				
	Claim . . . . .		3..	2..	4..
	Paid making Fac Simile Copies thereof . .		1..	10..	-
1773.	} To One Years Salary . . . . .		40..	-	-
Aug.					
	To Expences and Gratuities as before . .		30..	-	-
	Creditor.		£323..	3..	8..
1773.	By Ballance due to the Estate of Joseph	}			
	Sherwood . . . . .		£323..	3..	8..
	Errors Excepted				
	ANN SHERWOOD				
	THOMAS KELLAM.				

LONDON, 26<sup>th</sup> June, 1773.

And the said Account being duly examined, It is Voted and Resolved, That the same be and hereby is allowed, and that Three Hundred and Twenty-three Pounds, Three Shillings and Eight Pence Sterling, being the Amount thereof, be paid out of the General Treasury, to the Executors of Joseph Sherwood Esqr. deceased, the late Agent for this Colony in Great Britain.

THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE AT BOSTON TO THE  
COMMITTEE AT NEWPORT.

Boston March 29. 1774

*Gentlemen,*

The Committee of Correspondence for this Town have with pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your favor by M<sup>r</sup> Goddard ; the important subject upon which you write us has engaged our most serious attention

We are fully sensible that the Post Office upon the

present footing is unconstitutional, and a usurpation of the British Parliament no longer to be born. The Act which originated this Office is to all intents and purposes a Revenue Act, and is formidable and dangerous to the liberties of America, as the Officers have it in their power to intercept our communications, to extort what they please, and to apply them to divide us, and then to inslave us — it is a power that extends thro' all the Colonies, and is unsafe in the hands of those who have for a long time convinced us, that a regard to the rights of Mankind, is not the principle upon which they act — We cannot make opportunities but we may and ought to improve them. the present looks favourable to our wishes, to have the Post Office established upon a constitutional basis; Accordingly we have given M<sup>r</sup> Goddard a favourable reception and close attention to his plan,<sup>1</sup> have felt the pulse of the Inhabitants, and find a general approbation of the measure among the friends of American rights, but as it is necessary to consult with all the Maritime Towns before a plan can be fully adopted, we cannot write you more particularly at this time.

We have wrote to the several Trading Towns to the Eastward and Northward and sent them by M<sup>r</sup> Goddard who Is gone upon that tour, and are in hopes to write you again shortly; in the mean while we Shall be glad you will be ripening a plan, and communicating to us your farther thoughts upon this

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<sup>1</sup> William Goddard, formerly publisher of the *Providence Gazette*, and afterward a printer in Philadelphia and Baltimore, prepared a plan for the reorganization of the postal service throughout the colonies.

interesting Subject, and are with all due respects  
Gentlemen

Your most humble Servants

Signed by order and in behalf of the Com-  
mittee of Correspondence for Boston.

WILLIAM COOPER Clerk

To The Gentlemen the Committee of Correspond-  
ence for the Town of Newport



W. KNOX TO THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF RHODE  
ISLAND.

WHITEHALL 1<sup>st</sup> June 1774.

*Gentlemen,*

I am directed by the Earl of Dartmouth to trans-  
mit to you the two inclosed Acts of Parliament,<sup>1</sup>  
passed in the present Session, and to desire you  
will cause the same to be made public in your Col-  
ony.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Humble Servant

W KNOX

Governor and Company of Rhode Island

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<sup>1</sup> There were three acts of Parliament passed this session relating to the colonies : the Boston Port Bill, prohibiting the landing or shipping goods at Boston ; the Massachusetts Government Act, transferring the appointment of civil and administrative officials from the people to the Crown ; and an act forbidding public meetings without permission from the governor.

THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TO THE COMMITTEE OF RHODE ISLAND.

PROVINCE OF MASSACH<sup>'</sup> BAY BOSTON  
June 4 1774

*Gentlemen*

We take the earliest opportunity to Inclose you Copies of two Bills brought into Parliament, and before this time probably Enacted, which we have just received by a Vessel in Thirty six days from Bristol.<sup>1</sup> It is also Confidently reported that a Third Bill is to be brought into Parliament for the better regulating the Governments of the other Provinces in North America These Edicts, Cruel and oppressive as they are, we consider as but bare Specimens of what the Continent are to Expect from a Parliament who Claim a Right to make Laws binding us in all Cases whatsoever.

We are your friends and fellow Countrymen

THOMAS CUSHING	} Comm <sup>tee</sup> of
SAMUEL ADAMS	
JOSEPH HAWLEY	
THOMAS GARDNER	
	Corre- spondence

To the Gentlemen the Committee of Correspondence appointed by the House of Deputies of the Colony of Rhode Island.

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<sup>1</sup> See note to preceding letter.

JOHN SHERWOOD TO GOVERNOR WANTON.

*Hon Fr.*,

I received Your Favor of 28<sup>th</sup> May last, and am much Obliged to You for the News Papers Sent therewith which were very acceptable.

This being a time of recess, I have nothing new to communicate respecting America, except that a report was raised some time since that the Ministry intended to bring a Bill into Parliament the next Sessions of Parliament to Vacate Your Charter, and to add part of Your Colony to the Province of Massachusetts Bay, and part to the Colony of Connecticut, but I only look upon such Report as one of the many that are continually circulated in this City, without Foundation, and I should not have thought it worth mentioning had it not gained Belief on some that are connected with Your Colony.

Most of our Nobility and Gentry are in the Country making Interest against the next General Election for Members of Parliament, and it is expected there will be much Opposition to the Friends of the Ministry

I beg Your acceptance of the inclosed News Papers and am with respect

Your much oblided hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN SHERWOOD

13<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>r</sup> 1774

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> JOSEPH WANTON Esq<sup>r</sup>

Gov<sup>r</sup> of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

JOHN NORTHUP TO NICHOLAS COOKE.<sup>1</sup>

N<sup>o</sup> KINGSTOWN Feb<sup>y</sup> the 16 1775

S<sup>r</sup>

I Rec<sup>d</sup> your favour By my Brother and am obliged to you for your Spirited opinion Concerning the Torys S<sup>r</sup> I am So Engaged I Canot attend the Committy therefore pray your hon<sup>r</sup> to assist M<sup>r</sup> allen the Parson that has the Care of this Litter in giting all the Guns that Can Be had from providence S<sup>r</sup> we Shall Want to aquip the men Now Enlisted 140 Guns and Expect to have them from providence pray Send as many New Guns as you Can as the Soldiers may Go forward Soon S<sup>r</sup> I am Endeavouring to procure Blankits &c and all other esentials, I am S<sup>r</sup> y<sup>r</sup> Hon<sup>rs</sup>

Hum<sup>e</sup> obed Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN NORTHUP

To the Honor<sup>ble</sup> NICHOLAS COOKE Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
Providence

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ANONYMOUS LETTER.

*Dear Sir*

Our intelligence and that from a certain quarter is that the Troops are to be removed to New York where the whole Army is to rendasvous to the number, as they compute, of 13 thousand. The contractors have orders to furnish six months provisions

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<sup>1</sup> Cooke was deputy-governor in 1768, and again elected to that office in May, 1775, in place of Darius Sessions, who declined to serve. After the deposition of Wanton, Cooke became governor.



at that place, for such a number. They are under great apprehensions of the assistance you will receive from Virginia, and this station they think will enable them to cut off all such communication effectually, as well as the Patriotic party in that province and secure its desertion from the common cause.

It is hardly possible to say what is the determind intention respecting the whole American plan. So many contrary declarations are made that, one is apt to suspect they are either much embarrassed or very cunning in preventing preparations against the coerceive measures upon which they have resolvd, the latter is in my oppinion the fact, and therefore I think any remission of vigilance and activity on your part may be mischievious. You may be assured that a Bishop is to be sent as soon as it appears such a measure may be adopted with safety<sup>1</sup>

God bless you adieu

February 24. 1775

March 2

It is said now that General Gage is not to leave Boston, that part of the troops now sending from hence, are to go to Boston and part to New York to prevent communication between the Southern Colonies and New England, secure that Colony and protect the traitors there. New York is also to be a place of Arms and provisions, and to be provided there to supply the Army in New England

Endorsed: Anonymous. Feby. 24. 1775.

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<sup>1</sup> This measure was a source of continual anxiety to the colonists.

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY OF NEW YORK TO THE SPEAKER  
OF THE ASSEMBLY OF RHODE ISLAND.

NEW YORK April 10<sup>th</sup> 1775.

*Sir,*

By an Order of the General Assembly of this Colony, I am directed to transmit you the inclosed papers, upon the Subject of the unhappy situation of American Affairs. they contain a List of Grievances with the Resolutions of the House in Consequence thereof, and also a Petition to the King, a Memorial to the House of Lords, and a Representation and Remonstrance to the Commons of Great Britain. I am also directed to request of you to lay the same before the House of Assembly of your Colony at their first Meeting after the Receipt hereof, I shall only add that our Assembly stand adjourned until the third Day of May next, and that I am respectfully, Sir,

Your most Hum<sup>ble</sup> Servant

JOHN CRUGER Speaker

To The Speaker of the General Assembly, of the  
Colony of Rhode Island.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE IN CONNECTICUT TO THE SPEAKER  
OF THE HOUSE IN RHODE ISLAND.

LEBANON July 12<sup>th</sup> 1775

*Sir*

I am to acknowledge the Honor of Your Favor of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>, and had the Pleasure of receiving it in

the Chair while our Assembly was sitting and communicating its Contents to the House, who have great Satisfaction in Your Firmness and noble Exertions. We are almost to a Man deeply impressed with the highest Sense of Importance of supporting at every Hazard and Expence, a Cause unspeakably important, and big with the Fate of born and unborn Millions. We have already emitted 150 thousand pounds, and 100 thousand more will not be sufficient to finish the expence of this years Campaign; I trust the one half of our Estates will be deemed a small Sacrifice in a Cause of such magnitude. We have high Satisfaction to find so happy a Union to have taken Place thro out the Colonies, and particularly that our only free Sister of Rhode Island have embraced the same Sentiments, and are making the same glorious Efforts in the same glorious comon Cause. We humbly Hope That Heaven will approve and smile propitious on our common Attempts to vindicate the Rights and Liberties which God Almighty gave to be the common Lot and Portion of Mankind. Our utmost Endeavors ought not to be wanting and We may then chearfully leave the Event with the Sovereign Judge of Right and Wrong.

Our Assembly was called on the first Ins<sup>t</sup> on a pressing Request of the Massachusetts Congress, for a reinforcement of Men &c. They have chearfully raised two additional Regiments to consist of seven hundred Men each, exclusive of Officers, under the Command of Col<sup>o</sup>'s Webb and Huntington, and They are filling up with all Expedition, and hope They will very soon march. They have also ordered two

Vessels well armed and man'd to be fitted out immediately for Defence of the Coasts against the Enemy's small Craft which are harassing the Trade &c.

Have also ordered all the Salt Petre and Sulphur in the Colony to be forthwith collected and sent to New York to be manufactured into Powder, agreeable to the Request of the Continental Congress.

Our Assembly did not pass any Act for subjecting our Troops to the Command of the Continental Gen<sup>l</sup> Officers, seeming to take it for granted that it woud be freely and readily come into by all, without; but possibly it might have been better to have subjected them as Your Assembly have done. It was strongly moved in the two last Sessions of our Assembly to put a remaining quarter of our Militia into the Posture of Minute Men, but having done so much already and the Colony so tho'ro'ly alarmed as to be all in a manner minute Men, it was thot by the Majority not necessary, especially at this extreem busie Season.

You very justly observe "That every Thing valuable to Man is at Stake" Under the Influence of the same firm Persuasion, this Colony will not cease or remit Her continued and utmost Exertions in Defence of the all important Cause which cannot be defended at too dear a Rate, and I doubt not, our Armys will play the Men for our Country and for the City of our God; and the Lord do what seemeth Him Good.

I am with very great Respect and Esteem

Sir Your most Obed<sup>t</sup> and most H. Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. WILLIAMS Speaker

P.S. our latest Accounts from Canada, are, that the Inhabitants are very pressing, that our Forces shod penetrate into their Country, and stand ready to join Us, and are so oppressed and abused by their Tyrant for refusing &c, that they fear they shall be necessitated to take up against [us], unless We aid them to take up for Us.

Pray my best Regards to Doc<sup>r</sup> Babcock.

To The Hon<sup>ble</sup> METCALF BOWLER Esq<sup>r</sup>

Speaker of the House of Assembly. Rhode  
Island.

## **APPENDIX**



# APPENDIX

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## A CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF THE CORRESPONDENCE OF THE COLONIAL GOV- ERNORS OF RHODE ISLAND, 1731 TO 1775

*Printed in the Colonial Records of Rhode Island.*

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[The references are to volume and page of the Colonial Records.]

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- 1731, August 20. Governor Jencks to George II. IV. 458.  
1731, August 30. Memorial of Nathaniel Kay and Others to the  
Lords of Trade. IV. 457.  
1731, August 30. Address and Petition of the Governor and  
Company of Rhode Island to George II. IV. 459.  
1739, July 5. The Lords of Trade to the Governor and Company  
of Rhode Island. V. 6.  
1740, January 9. Governor Ward to the Lords of Trade. V. 8.  
1740, May 20. The Lords of Trade to the Governor and Com-  
pany of Rhode Island. V. 7.  
1740, August 1. The Lords of Trade to Governor Wanton.  
IV. 586.  
1740, August 1. The Lords of Trade to the Boundary Commis-  
sioners. IV. 586.  
1740, September 4. Royal Commission appointing Boundary  
Commissioners. IV. 587.  
\*1741, August 12. General Wentworth to Governor Ward.  
V. 30.  
\*1742, March 15. Governor Greene to the Duke of Newcastle.  
V. 79.  
1744, March 31. The Duke of Newcastle to Governor Greene.  
V. 80.  
\*1744, June 5. Josiah Willard to Governor Greene. V. 93.



- 1745, January 3. Duke of Newcastle to the Governors in America. V. 132.
- \*1745, January 29. Governor Shirley to Governor Greene. V. 74.
- 1745, March 28. Governor Shirley to Governor Greene. V. 133.
- 1745, April 15. Governor Clinton to Governor Greene. V. 133.
- 1745, May 3. Governor Shirley to Governor Greene. V. 134.
- \*1745, May 18. Governor Shirley to Governor Wanton. V. 134.
- 1745, June 5. Governor Shirley to Governor Wanton. V. 135.
- 1745, June 6. Governor Shirley to Governor Wanton. V. 136.
- 1745, June 24. Sir Peter Warren to Governor Wanton. V. 137.
- 1745, June 24. Governor Shirley to Governor Wanton. V. 137.
- 1745, July 3. Governor Shirley to Governor Wanton. V. 138.
- 1745, July 18. Captain Fones to Governor Wanton. V. 140.
- 1745, July 25. Sir Peter Warren to Governor Wanton. V. 139.
- 1745, July 30. Captain Fones to Governor Wanton. V. 141.
- 1745, August 13. General Pepperell to Governor Wanton. V. 141.
- 1745, August 14. Governor Phips to Governor Wanton. V. 142.
- 1745, August 23. Governor Wanton to Sir Peter Warren. V. 139.
- 1745, September 13. General Pepperell to Governor Wanton. V. 143.
- 1745, November 15. Certificate by Roger Wolcott. V. 155.
- 1745, November 26. Sir Peter Warren to Governor Wanton. V. 148.
- 1745, December 20. Governor Wanton to Richard Partridge. V. 145.
- 1746, January 25. Sir Peter Warren and General Pepperell to Governor Wanton. V. 150.
- 1746, March 14. Duke of Newcastle to Governor Wanton. V. 161.
- 1746, April 9. Duke of Newcastle to the Governor and Company of Rhode Island. V. 162.
- 1746, May 6. Sir Peter Warren and General Pepperell to Governor Wanton. V. 171.
- 1746, June 29. Sir Peter Warren to Governor Greene. V. 183.
- 1746, July. Governor Greene to Sir Peter Warren. V. 183.
- 1746, July 4. Governor Shirley and Sir Peter Warren to Governor Greene. V. 185.
- 1746, July 18. Governor Greene to Governor Shirley and Sir Peter Warren. V. 187.

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- \*1746, September 29. Governor Shirley and Sir Peter Warren to Governor Greene. V. 191.
- 1746, October 3. Governor Greene to Governor Shirley and Sir Peter Warren.
- 1746, October 23. Governor Shirley and Sir Peter Warren to Governor Greene. V. 195.
- 1746, October 27. Governor Shirley to Governor Greene. V. 196.
- \*1746, November 4. Governor Shirley to Governor Greene. V. 203.
- \*1747, January 5. Governor Shirley to Governor Greene. V. 206.
- 1747, January 26. Sir William Johnson to Governor Shirley. V. 210.
- 1747, February 7. Governor Shirley to Governor Greene. V. 209.
- 1747, February 9. Governor Shirley to Governor Greene. V. 210.
- 1747, February 20. Governor Greene to Governor Shirley. V. 211.
- 1747, March 5. Josiah Willard to Governor Greene. V. 212.
- 1747, May 18. Governor Shirley to Governor Wanton. V. 216.
- 1747, June 29. Governor Shirley to Governor Wanton. V. 219.
- 1747, July 3. Governor Wanton to Governor Shirley. V. 220.
- 1747, August 20. Governor Shirley to Governor Wanton. V. 224.
- 1747, October 10. Governor Knowles and Governor Shirley to Governor Wanton. V. 227.
- 1747, October 23. Governor Wanton to Governor Shirley and Governor Knowles. V. 230.
- 1747, October 26. Governor Shirley to Governor Wanton. V. 231.
- 1747, October 29. Governor Shirley to Governor Wanton. V. 231.
- 1747, October 31. Governor Wanton to Governor Shirley and Admiral Knowles. V. 233.
- 1747, December 28. Governor Shirley to Governor Wanton. V. 235.
- 1748, January 9. Governor Wanton to the Lords of the Treasury. V. 236.
- 1748, January 11. Governor Wanton to Richard Partridge. V. 236.
- 1748, January 14. Governor Wanton to Governor Shirley. V. 240.
- 1748, May 7. The Duke of Bedford to the Governor and Company of Rhode Island. V. 247.
- 1748, June 8. Thomas Hill to the Governor and Company of

- Rhode Island, with Queries from the Lords of Trade.  
V. 257.
- 1748, June 28. Duke of Bedford to the Governor and Company of Rhode Island. V. 250.
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